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SEGA

THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

SONIC

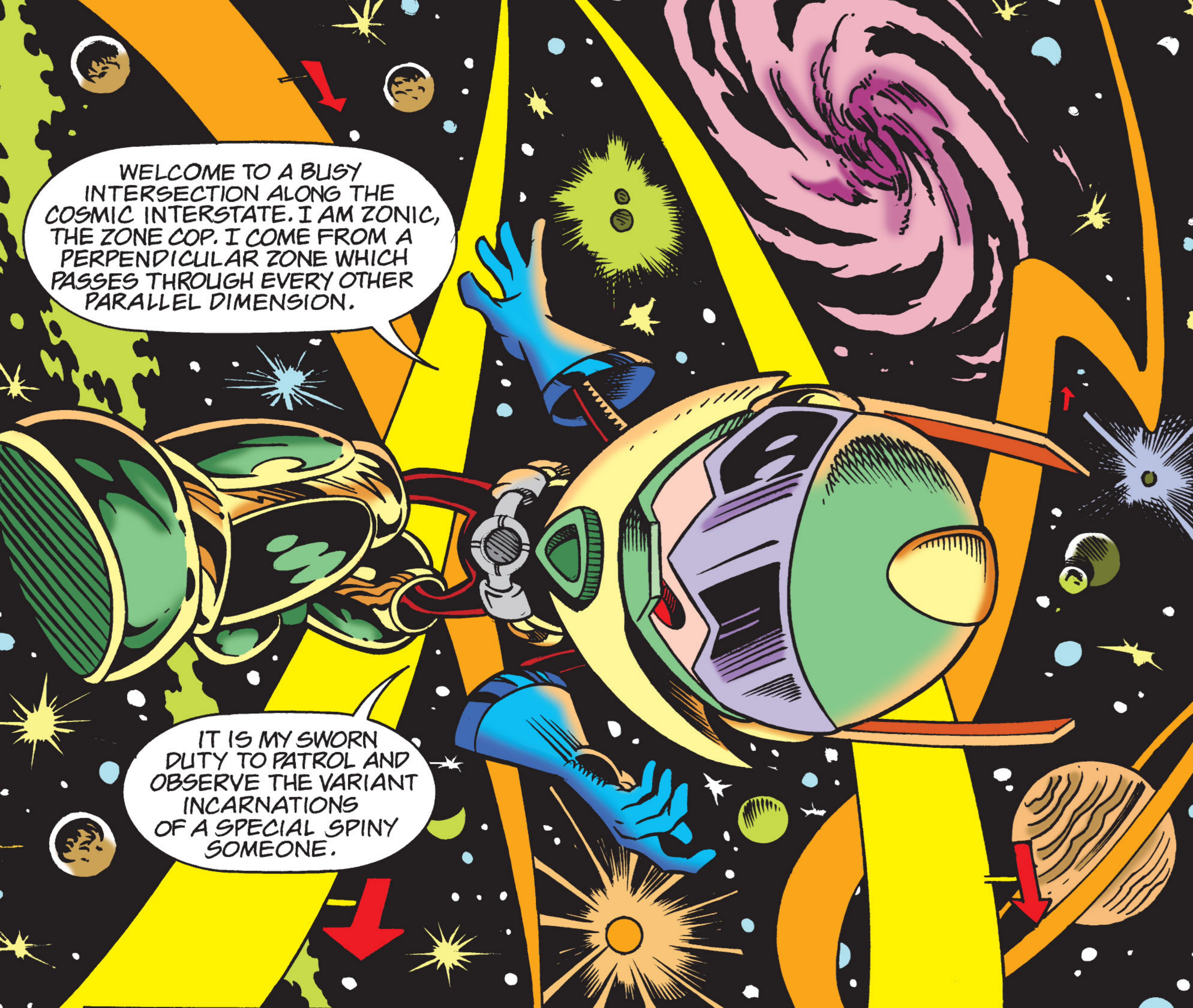
TM

THE HEDGEHOG

QUANTUM
LEAP



SALVARI
JD RAY '01



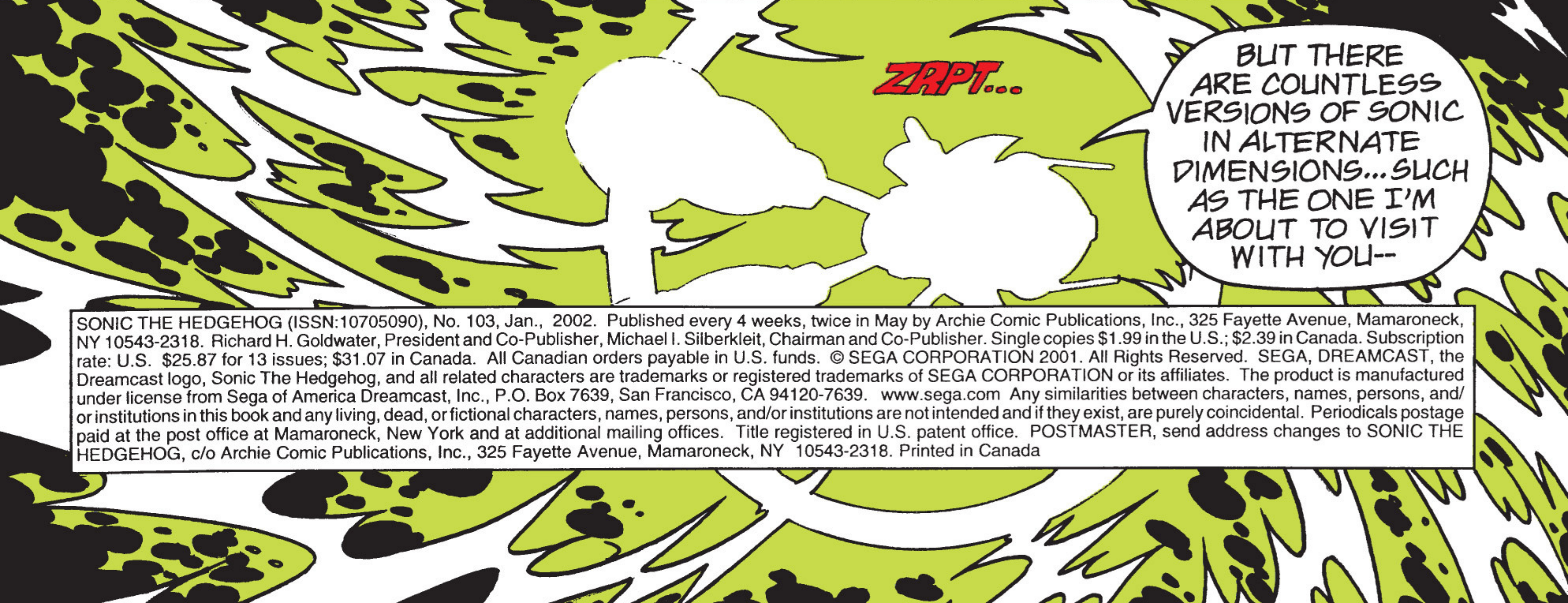
WELCOME TO A BUSY
INTERSECTION ALONG THE
COSMIC INTERSTATE. I AM ZONIC,
THE ZONE COP. I COME FROM A
PERPENDICULAR ZONE WHICH
PASSES THROUGH EVERY OTHER
PARALLEL DIMENSION.



IT IS MY SWORN
DUTY TO PATROL AND
OBSERVE THE VARIANT
INCARNATIONS
OF A SPECIAL SPINY
SOMEONE.

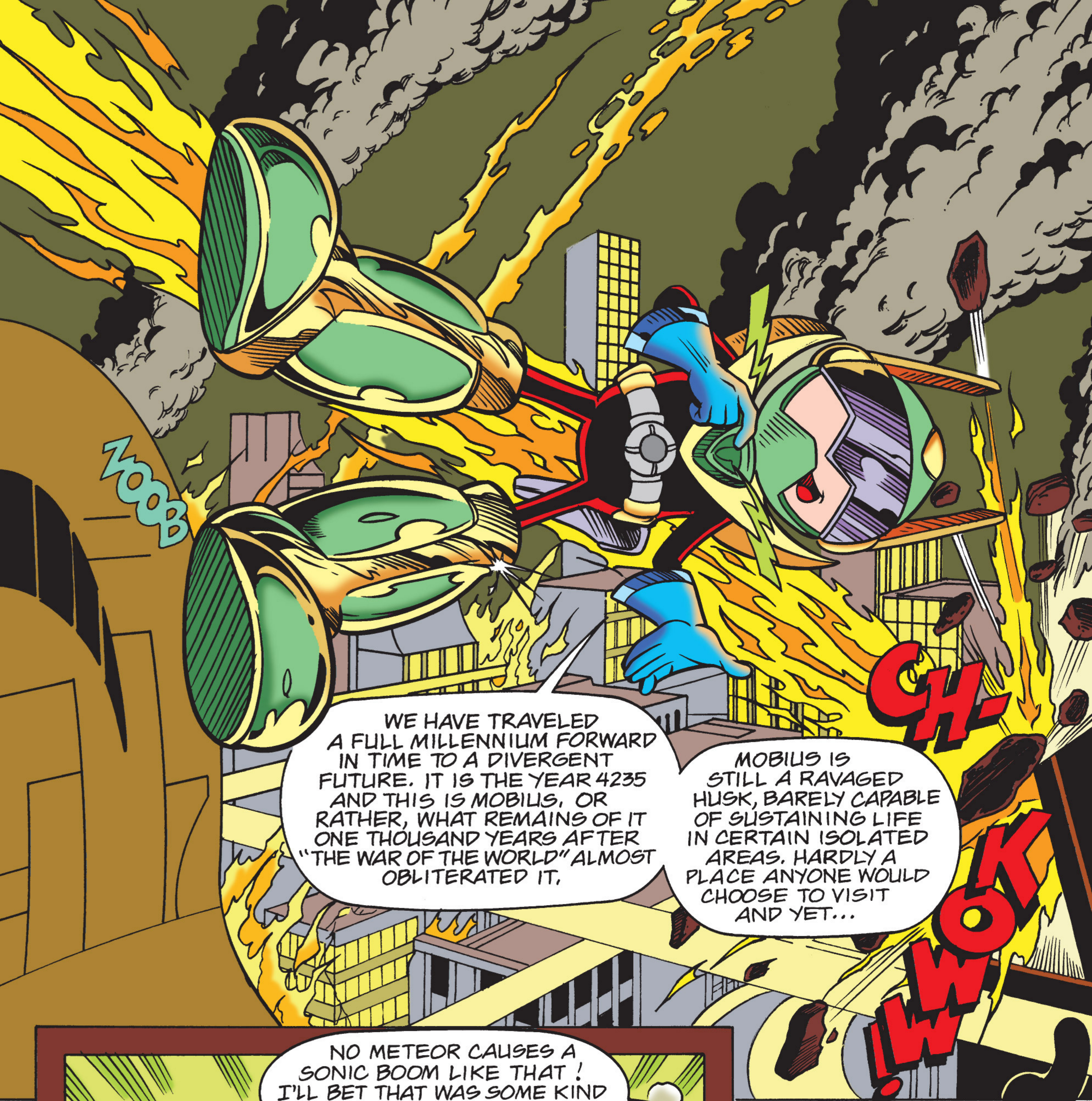


MY PRIMARY FOCUS IS HISTORY'S
MOST PIVOTAL HERO, SONIC PRIME,
THE TRUE BLUE HEDGEHOG OF
ALL REALITIES.



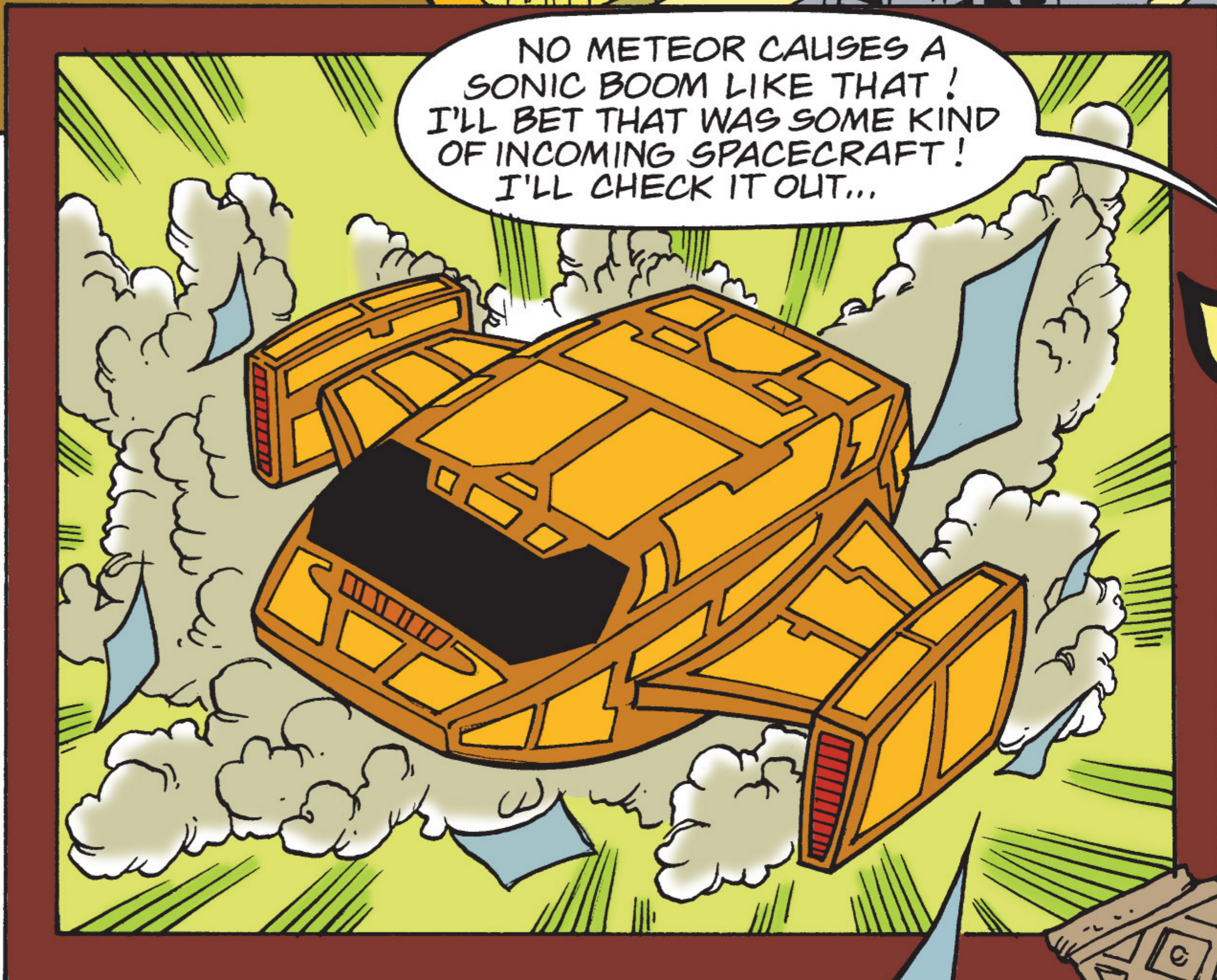
BUT THERE
ARE COUNTLESS
VERSIONS OF SONIC
IN ALTERNATE
DIMENSIONS... SUCH
AS THE ONE I'M
ABOUT TO VISIT
WITH YOU--

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (ISSN:10705090), No. 103, Jan., 2002. Published every 4 weeks, twice in May by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Richard H. Goldwater, President and Co-Publisher, Michael I. Silberkleit, Chairman and Co-Publisher. Single copies \$1.99 in the U.S.; \$2.39 in Canada. Subscription rate: U.S. \$25.87 for 13 issues; \$31.07 in Canada. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. © SEGA CORPORATION 2001. All Rights Reserved. SEGA, DREAMCAST, the Dreamcast logo, Sonic The Hedgehog, and all related characters are trademarks or registered trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION or its affiliates. The product is manufactured under license from Sega of America Dreamcast, Inc., P.O. Box 7639, San Francisco, CA 94120-7639. www.sega.com Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in Canada



WE HAVE TRAVELED
A FULL MILLENNIUM FORWARD
IN TIME TO A DIVERGENT
FUTURE. IT IS THE YEAR 4235
AND THIS IS MOBILUS, OR
RATHER, WHAT REMAINS OF IT
ONE THOUSAND YEARS AFTER
"THE WAR OF THE WORLD" ALMOST
OBLITERATED IT,

MOBILUS IS
STILL A RAVAGED
HUSK, BARELY CAPABLE
OF SUSTAINING LIFE
IN CERTAIN ISOLATED
AREAS. HARDLY A
PLACE ANYONE WOULD
CHOOSE TO VISIT
AND YET...



NO METEOR CAUSES A
SONIC BOOM LIKE THAT !
I'LL BET THAT WAS SOME KIND
OF INCOMING SPACECRAFT !
I'LL CHECK IT OUT...



I WAS RIGHT
--A STRANGER'S
COME TO TOWN ...
MY TOWN !



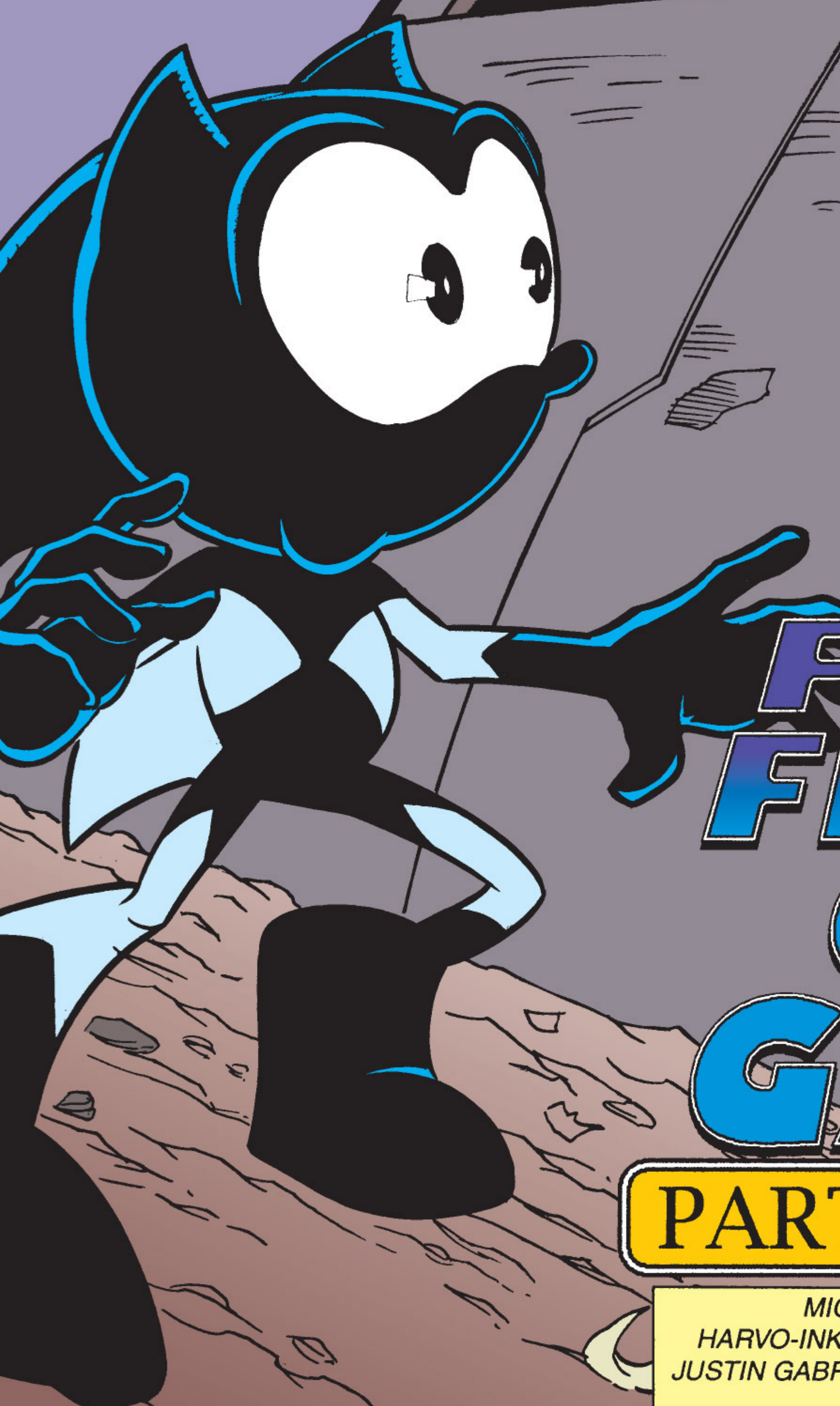
I...I'VE
LANDED! BUT
CAN THIS TRULY
BE...HOME?



WHOA! GOT
TO GET MY LAND
LEGS. I'M GLAD MY
CONFINEMENT
SUIT COMPENSATES
FOR THIS ACRID
ATMOSPHERE...



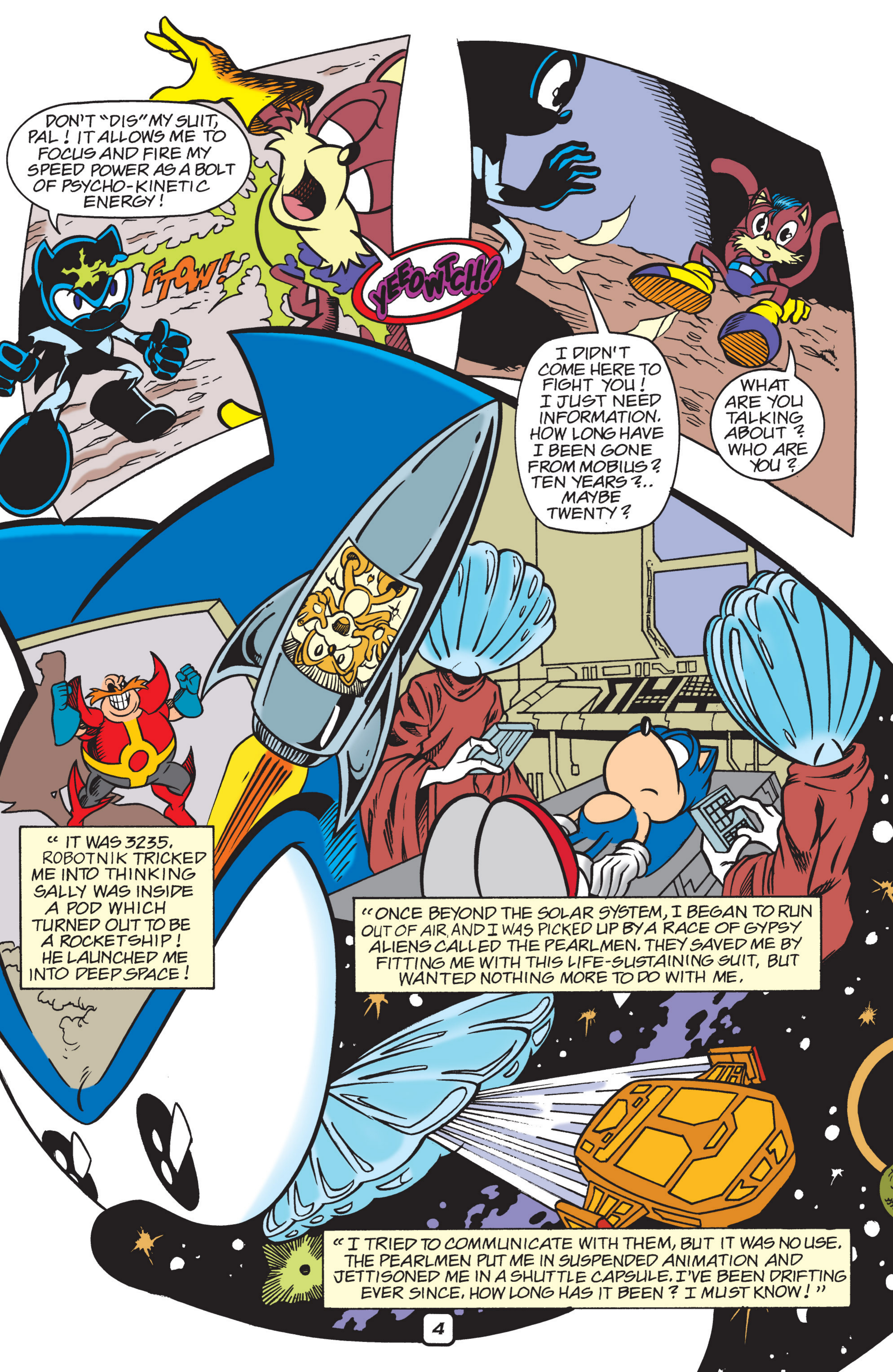
YOU DON'T
SMELL SO GOOD
YOURSELF, INTRUDER!
HOW LONG SINCE YOU
WASHED THOSE NASTY
THREADS?



FREEDOM FIGHTERS OF THE GALAXY

PART ONE, CHAPTER ONE

MICHAEL GALLAGHER-WRITER JIM VALENTINO-PENCILLER
HARVO-INKER VICKIE WILLIAMS-LETTERER STEPHANIE VOZZO-COLORIST
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RICHARD GOLDWATER-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



DON'T "DIS" MY SUIT, PAL! IT ALLOWS ME TO FOCUS AND FIRE MY SPEED POWER AS A BOLT OF PSYCHO-KINETIC ENERGY!

FTW!

YEEOWTCH!

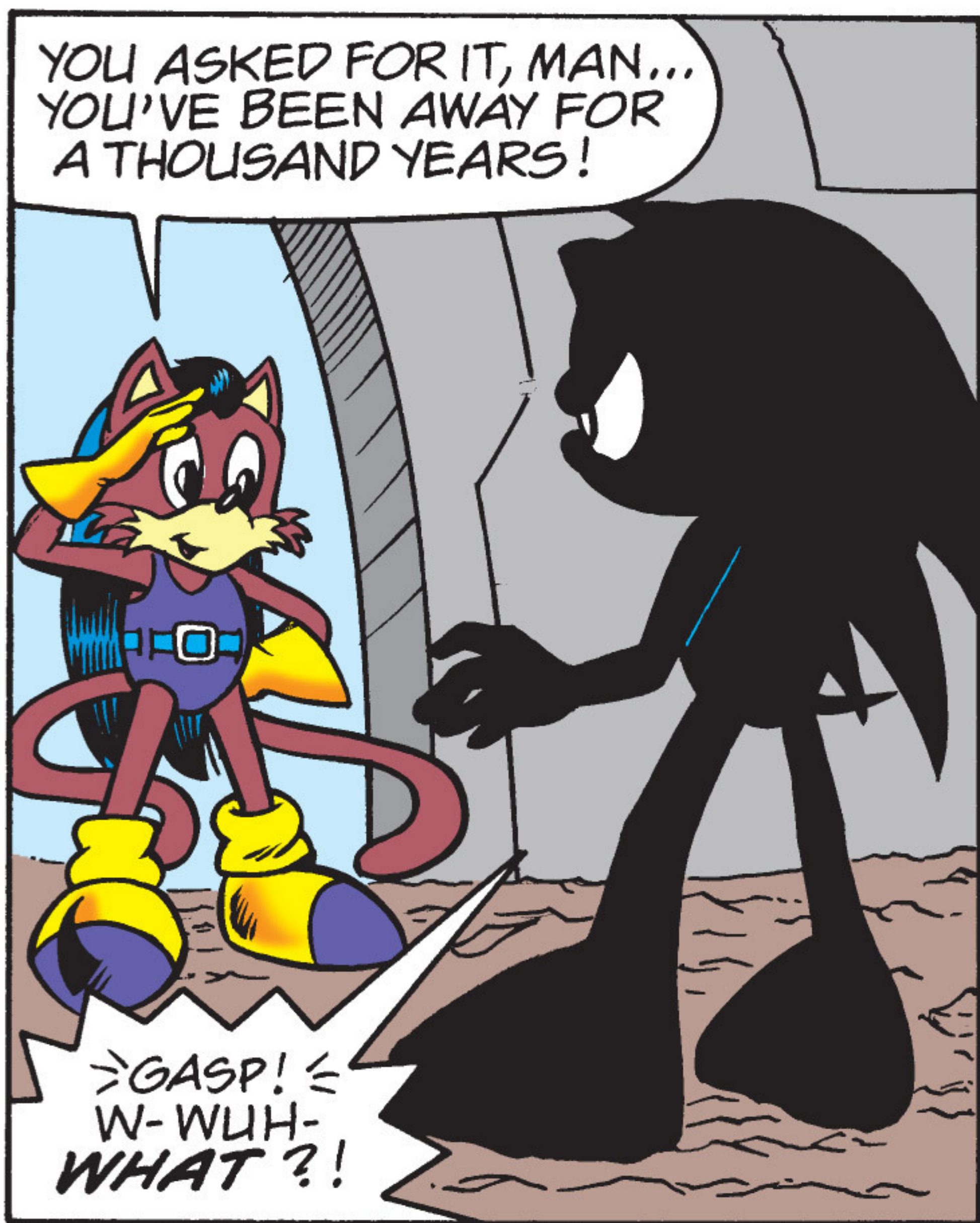
I DIDN'T COME HERE TO FIGHT YOU! I JUST NEED INFORMATION. HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN GONE FROM MOBIUS? TEN YEARS?... MAYBE TWENTY?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WHO ARE YOU?

"IT WAS 3235. ROBOTNIK TRICKED ME INTO THINKING SALLY WAS INSIDE A POD WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE A ROCKETSHIP! HE LAUNCHED ME INTO DEEP SPACE!

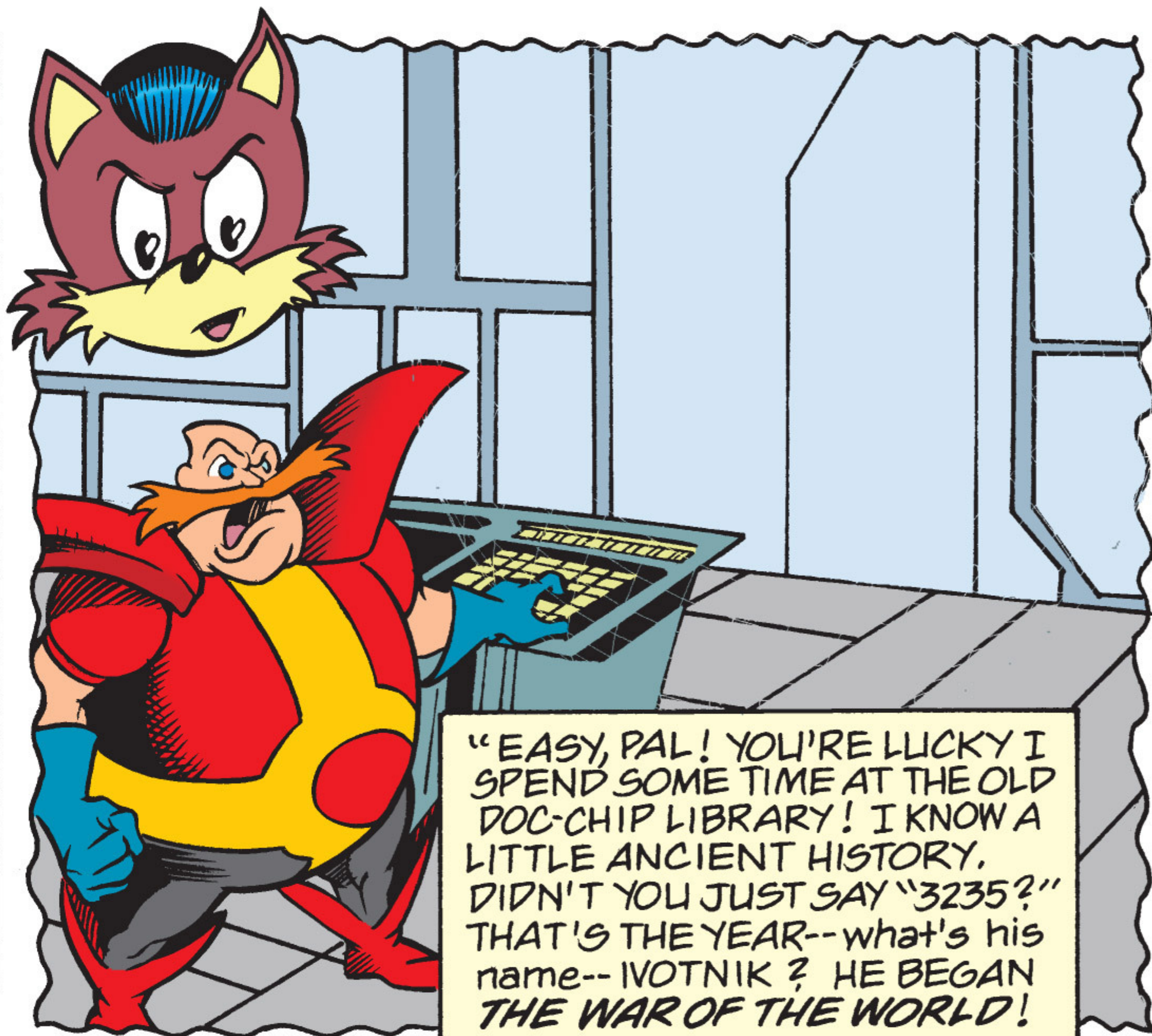
"ONCE BEYOND THE SOLAR SYSTEM, I BEGAN TO RUN OUT OF AIR, AND I WAS PICKED UP BY A RACE OF GYPSY ALIENS CALLED THE PEARLMEN. THEY SAVED ME BY FITTING ME WITH THIS LIFE-SUSTAINING SUIT, BUT WANTED NOTHING MORE TO DO WITH ME.

"I TRIED TO COMMUNICATE WITH THEM, BUT IT WAS NO USE. THE PEARLMEN PUT ME IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION AND JETTISONED ME IN A SHUTTLE CAPSULE. I'VE BEEN DRIFTING EVER SINCE, HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN? I MUST KNOW!"

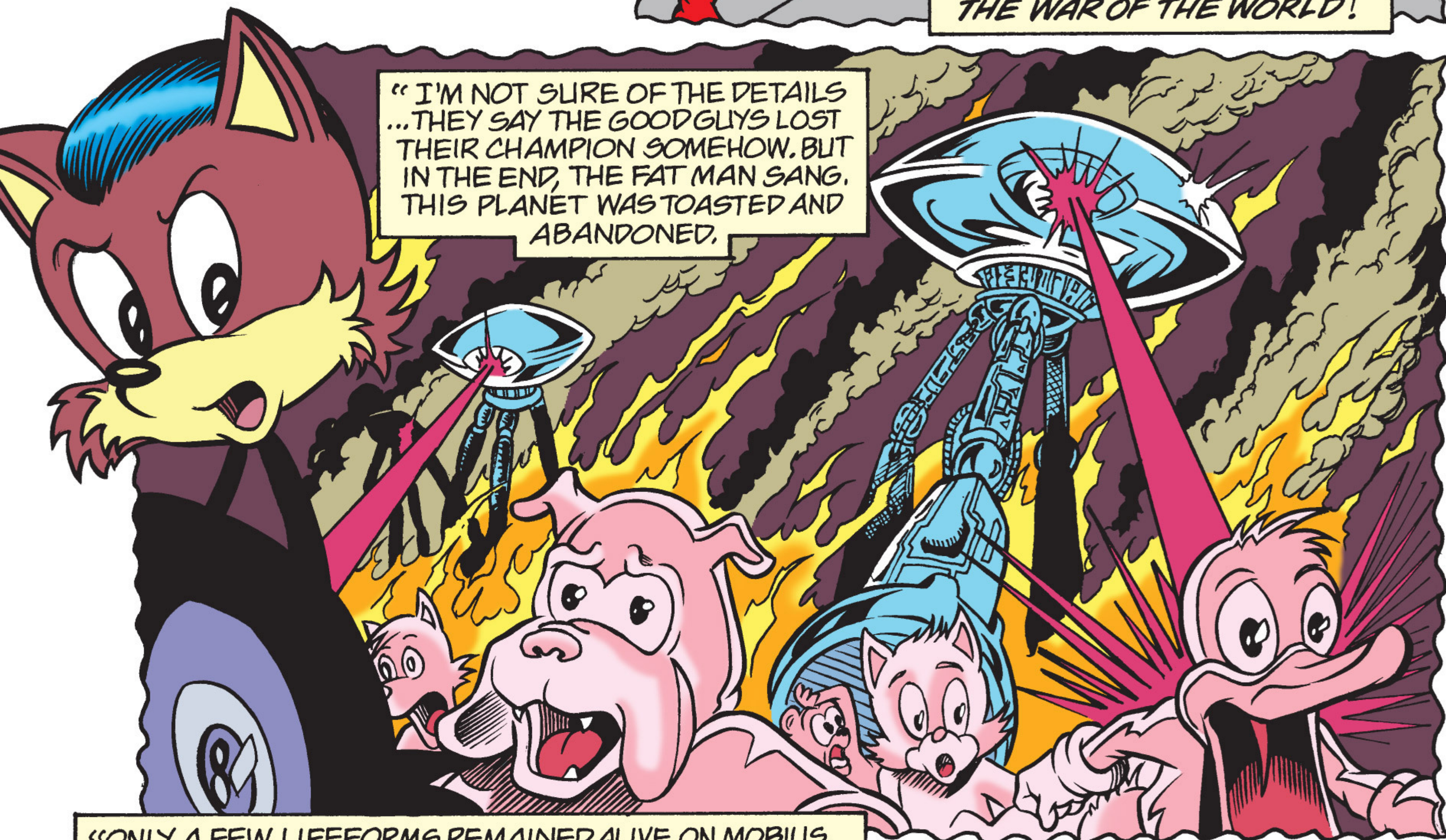


YOU ASKED FOR IT, MAN...
YOU'VE BEEN AWAY FOR
A THOUSAND YEARS!

>GASP!
W-WUH-
WHAT?!

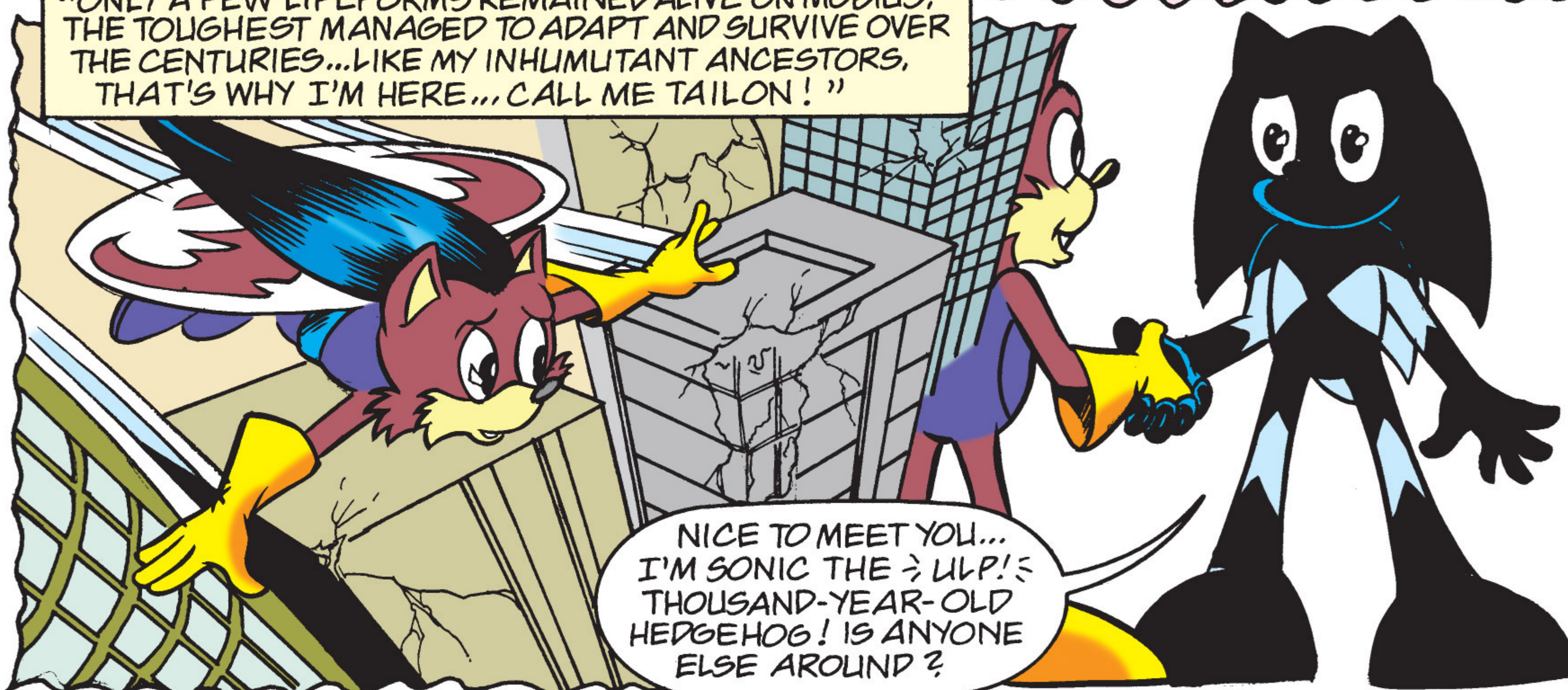


"EASY, PAL! YOU'RE LUCKY I
SPEND SOME TIME AT THE OLD
DOC-CHIP LIBRARY! I KNOW A
LITTLE ANCIENT HISTORY.
DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY "3235?"
THAT'S THE YEAR--what's his
name-- IVOTNIK ? HE BEGAN
THE WAR OF THE WORLD!

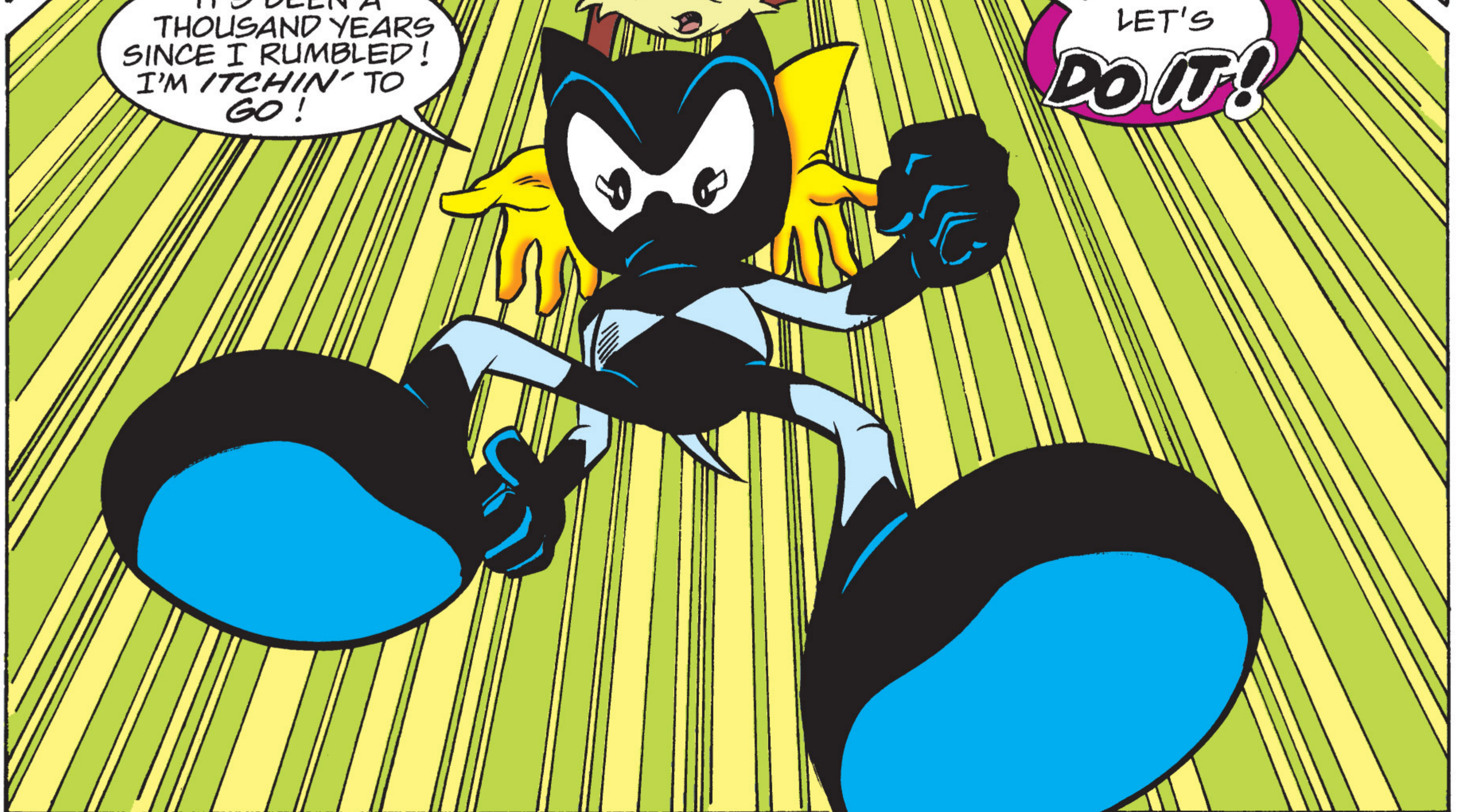
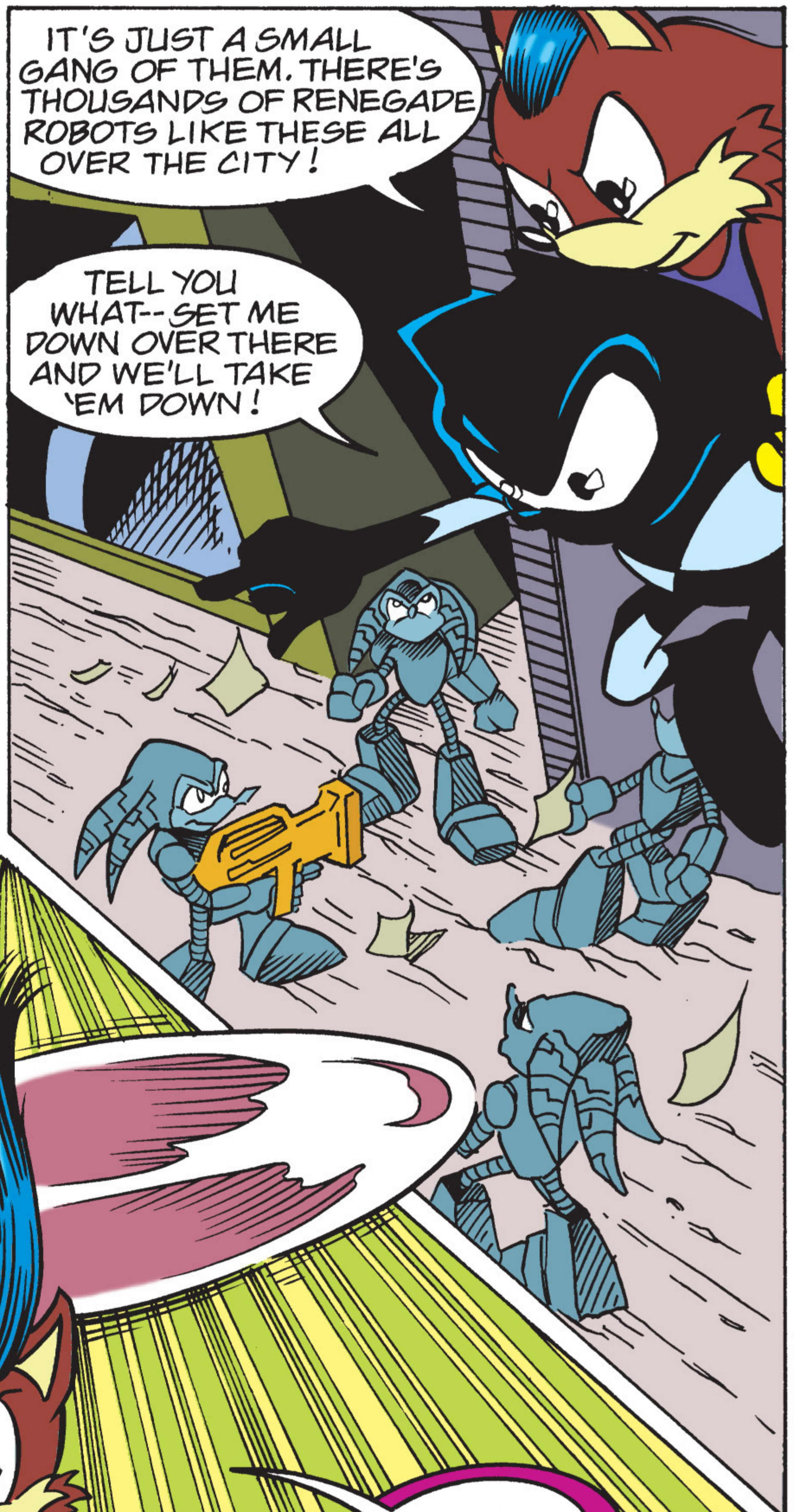
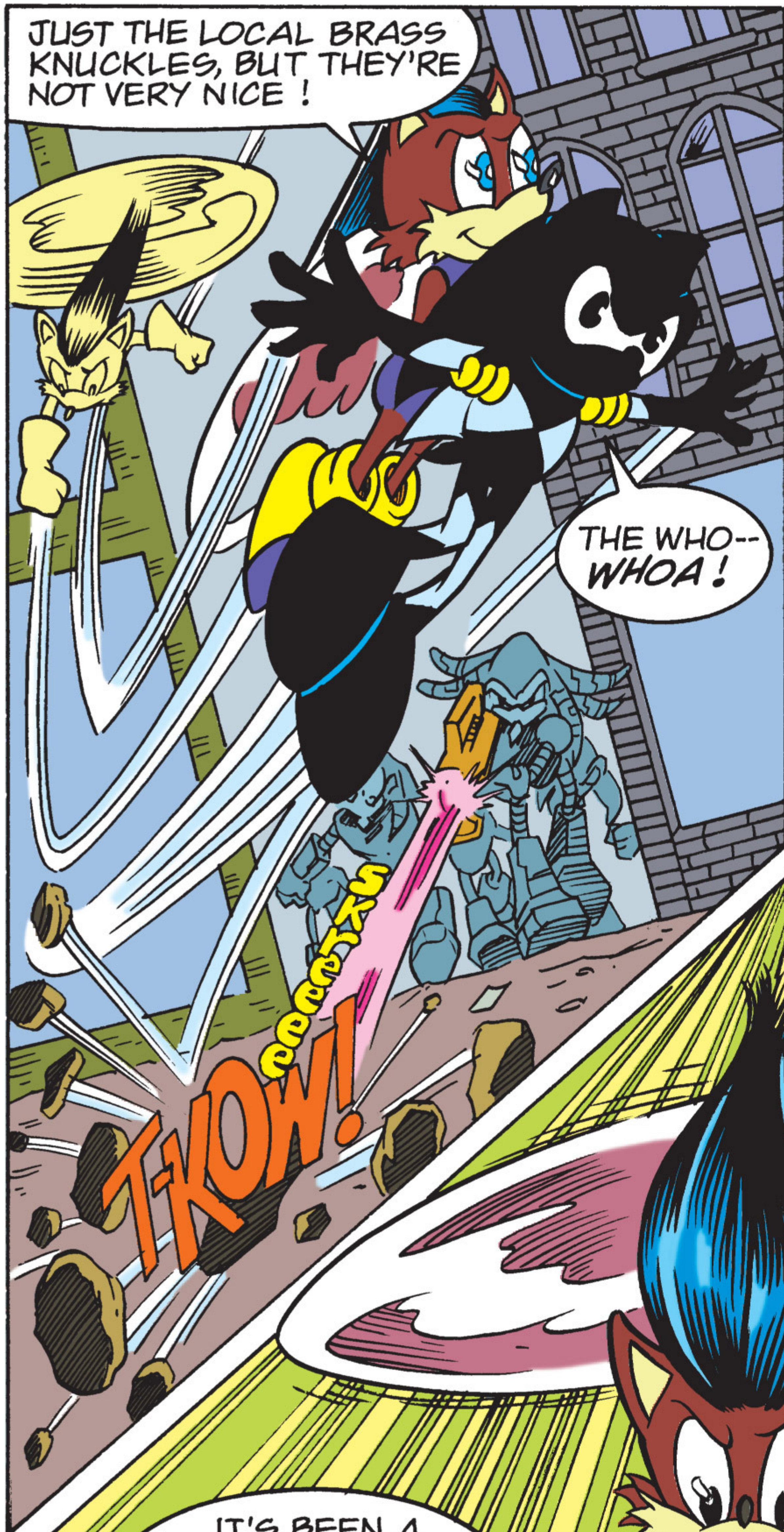


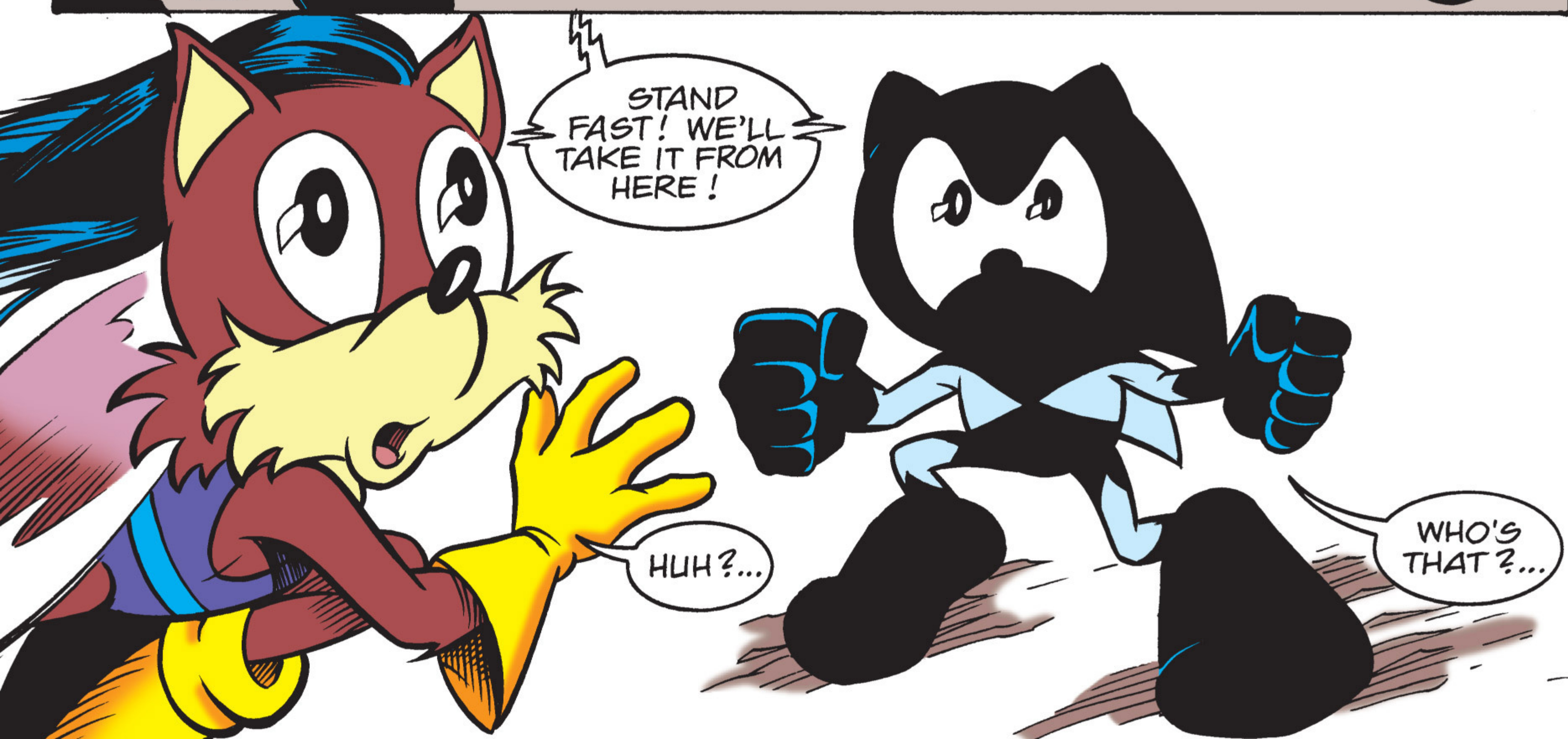
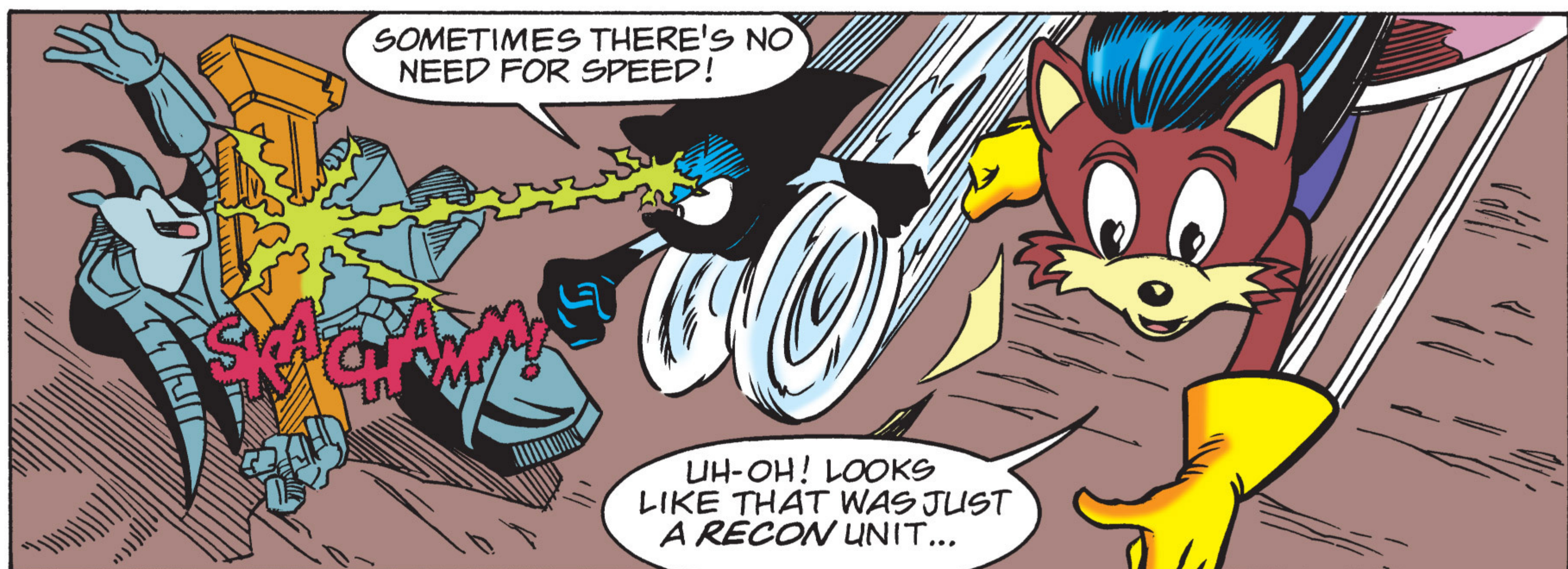
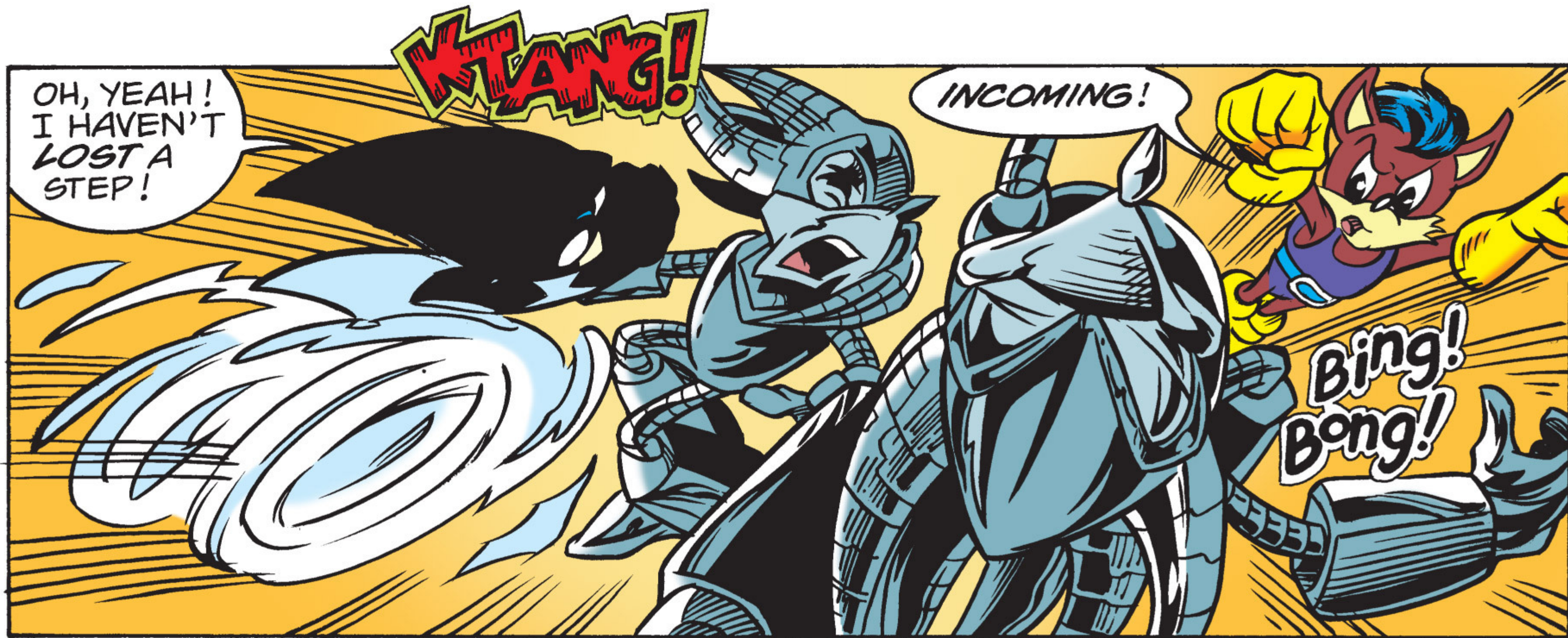
"I'M NOT SURE OF THE DETAILS
...THEY SAY THE GOODGLYS LOST
THEIR CHAMPION SOMEHOW. BUT
IN THE END, THE FAT MAN SANG.
THIS PLANET WAS TOASTED AND
ABANDONED.

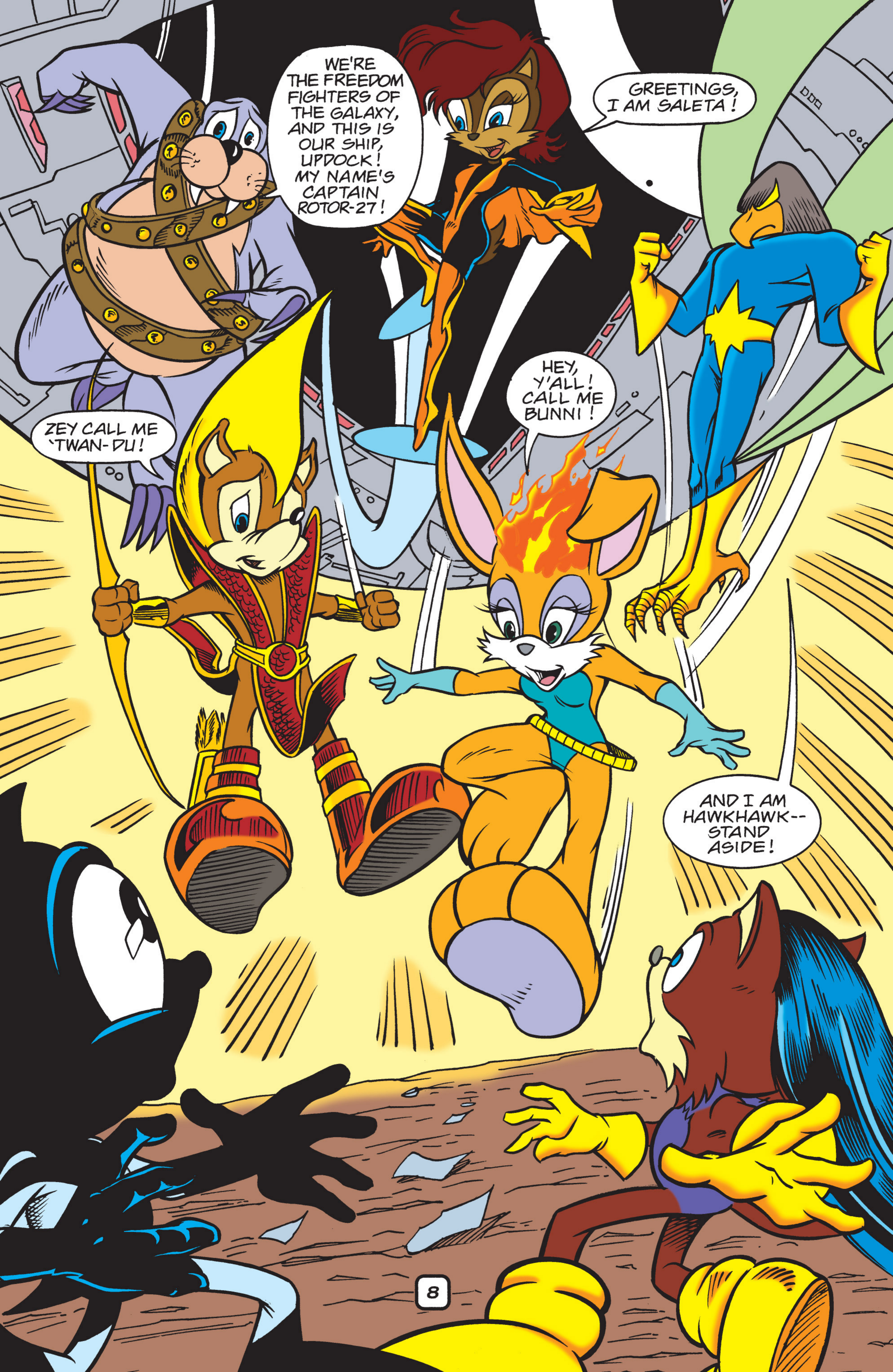
"ONLY A FEW LIFEFORMS REMAINED ALIVE ON MOBILUS,
THE TOUGHEST MANAGED TO ADAPT AND SURVIVE OVER
THE CENTURIES...LIKE MY INHUMANT ANCESTORS,
THAT'S WHY I'M HERE... CALL ME TAILON!"



NICE TO MEET YOU...
I'M SONIC THE >ULP!
THOUSAND-YEAR-OLD
HEDGEHOG! IS ANYONE
ELSE AROUND?







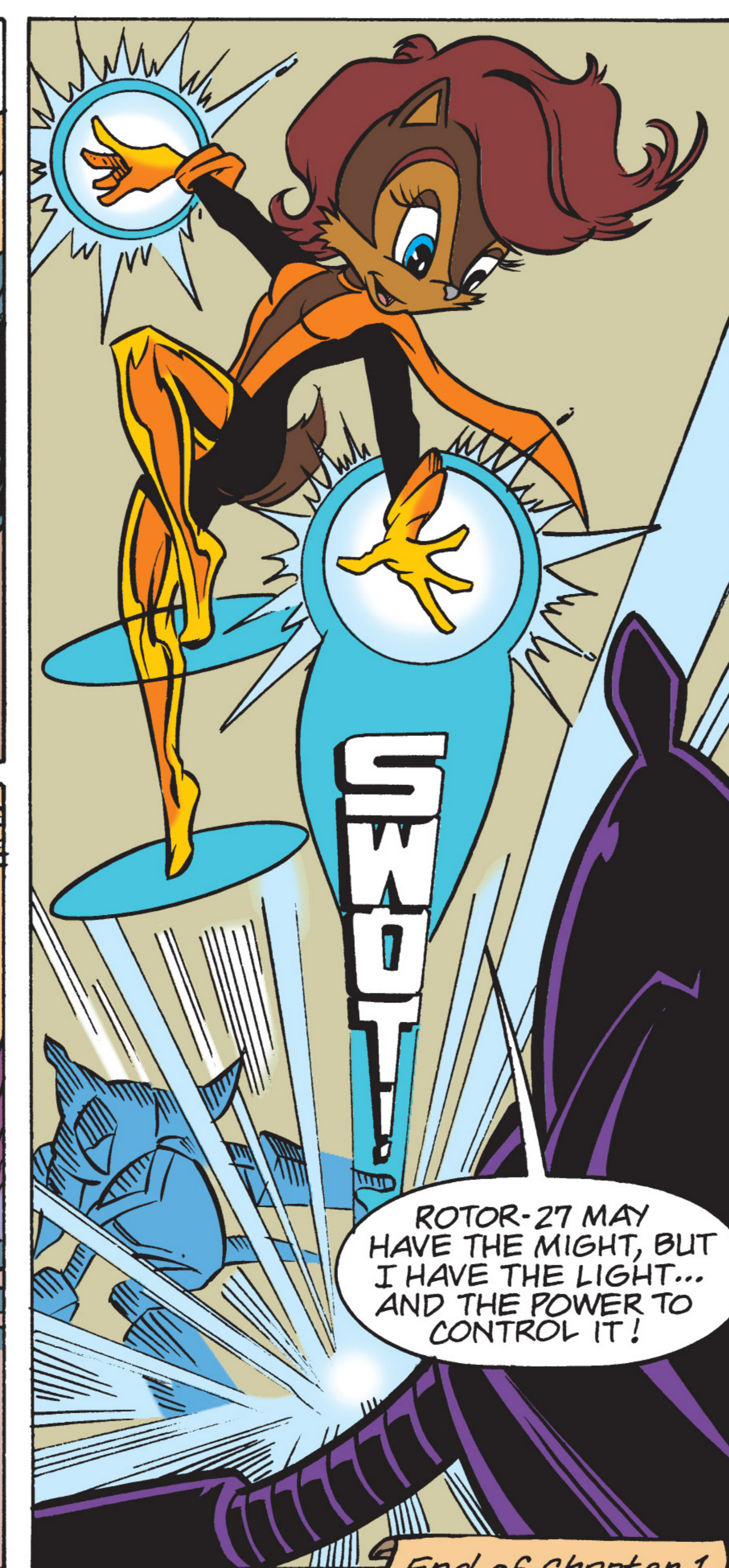
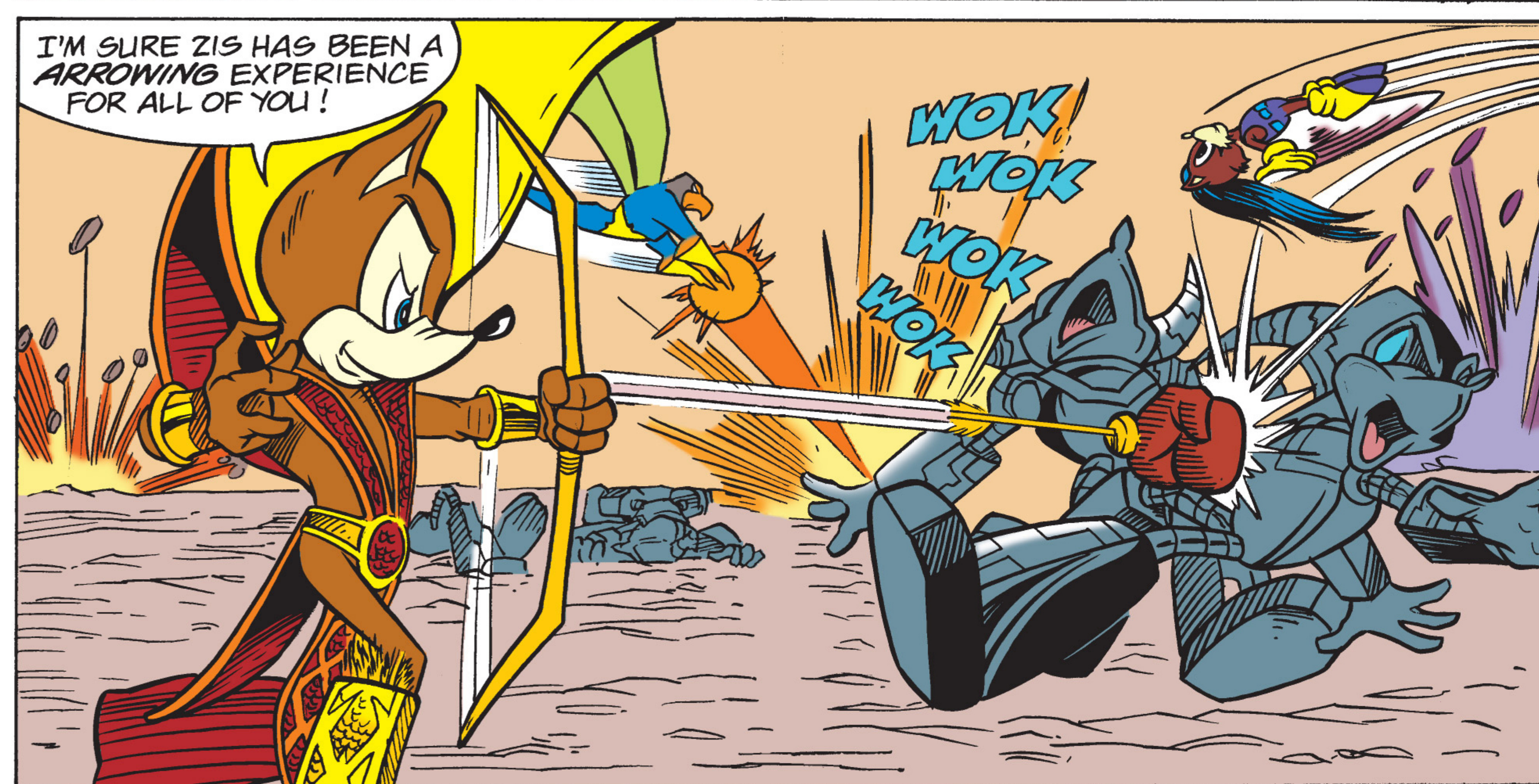
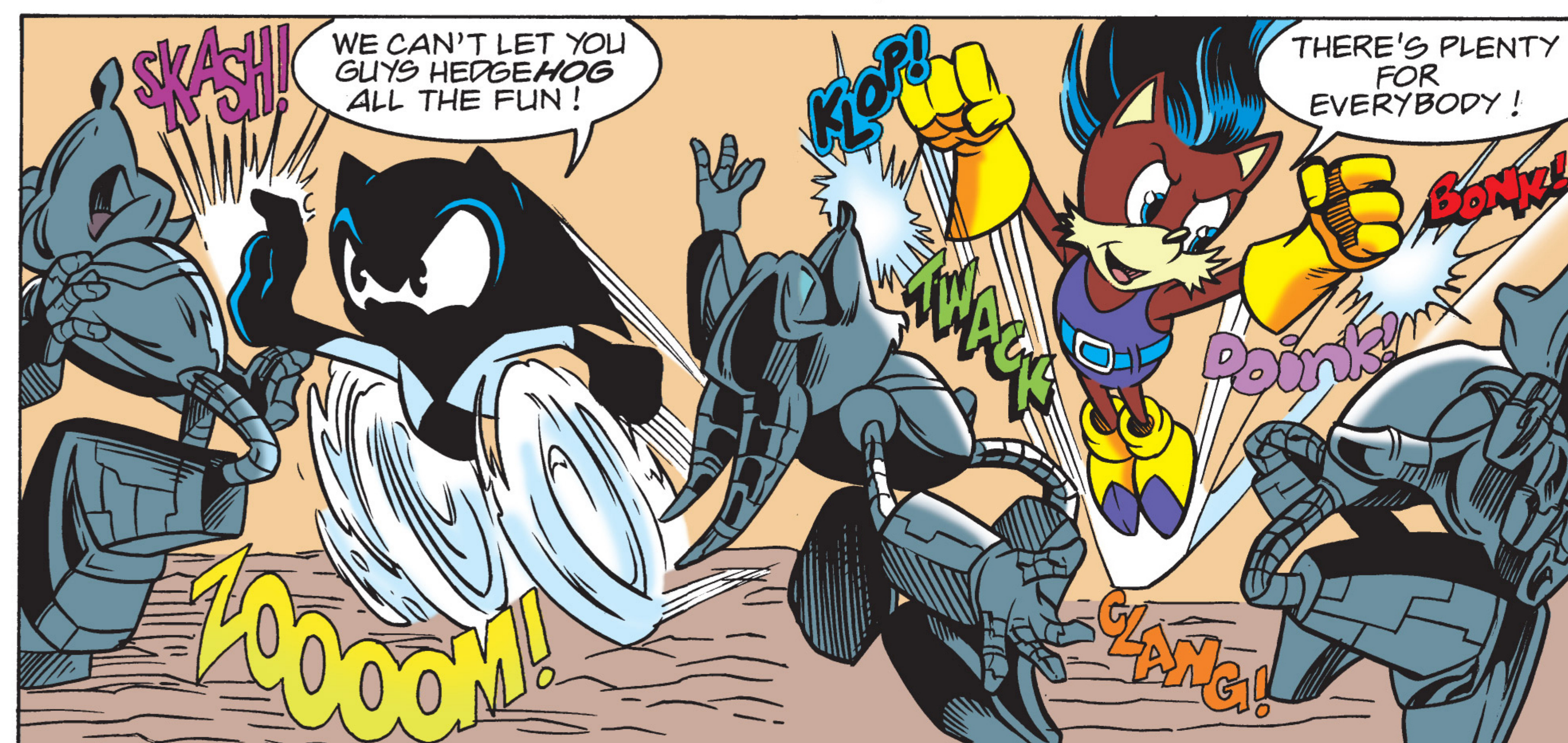
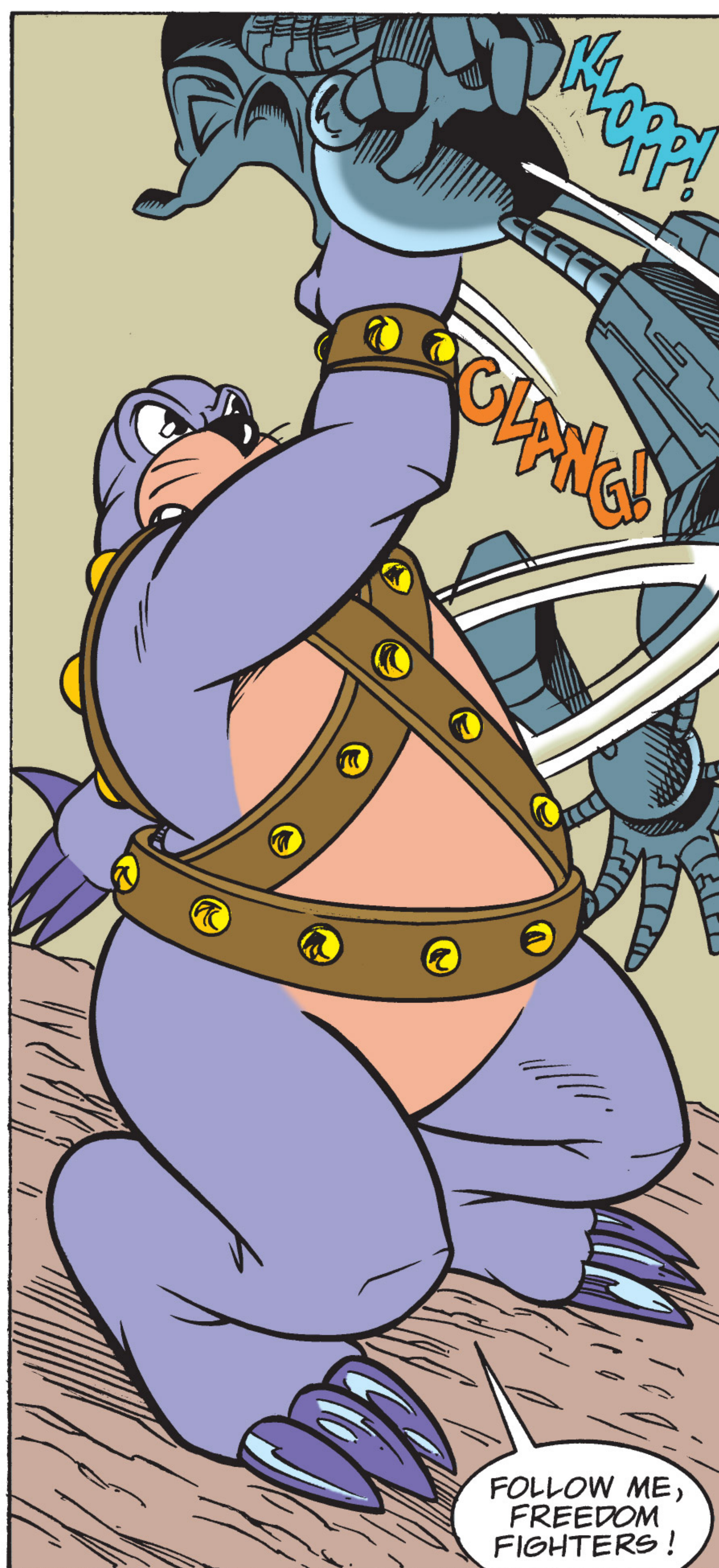
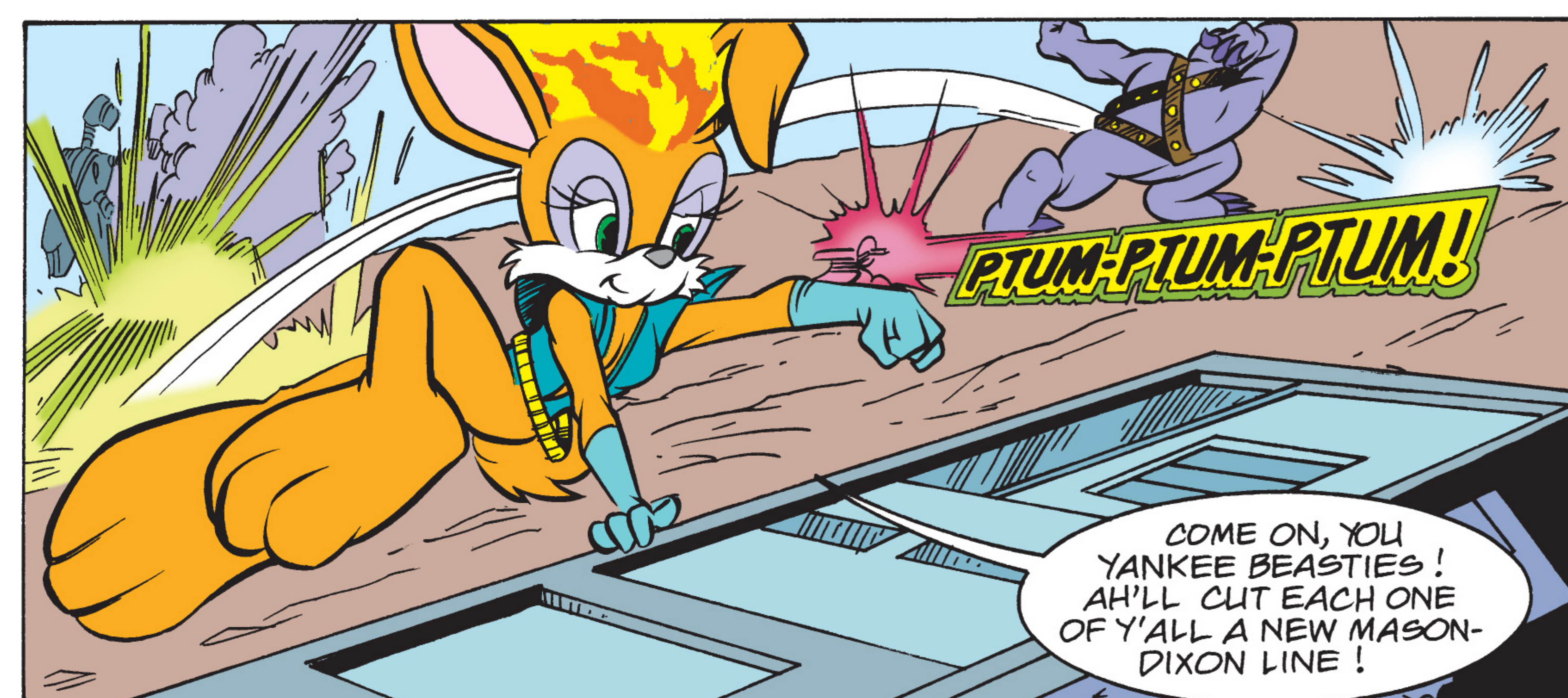
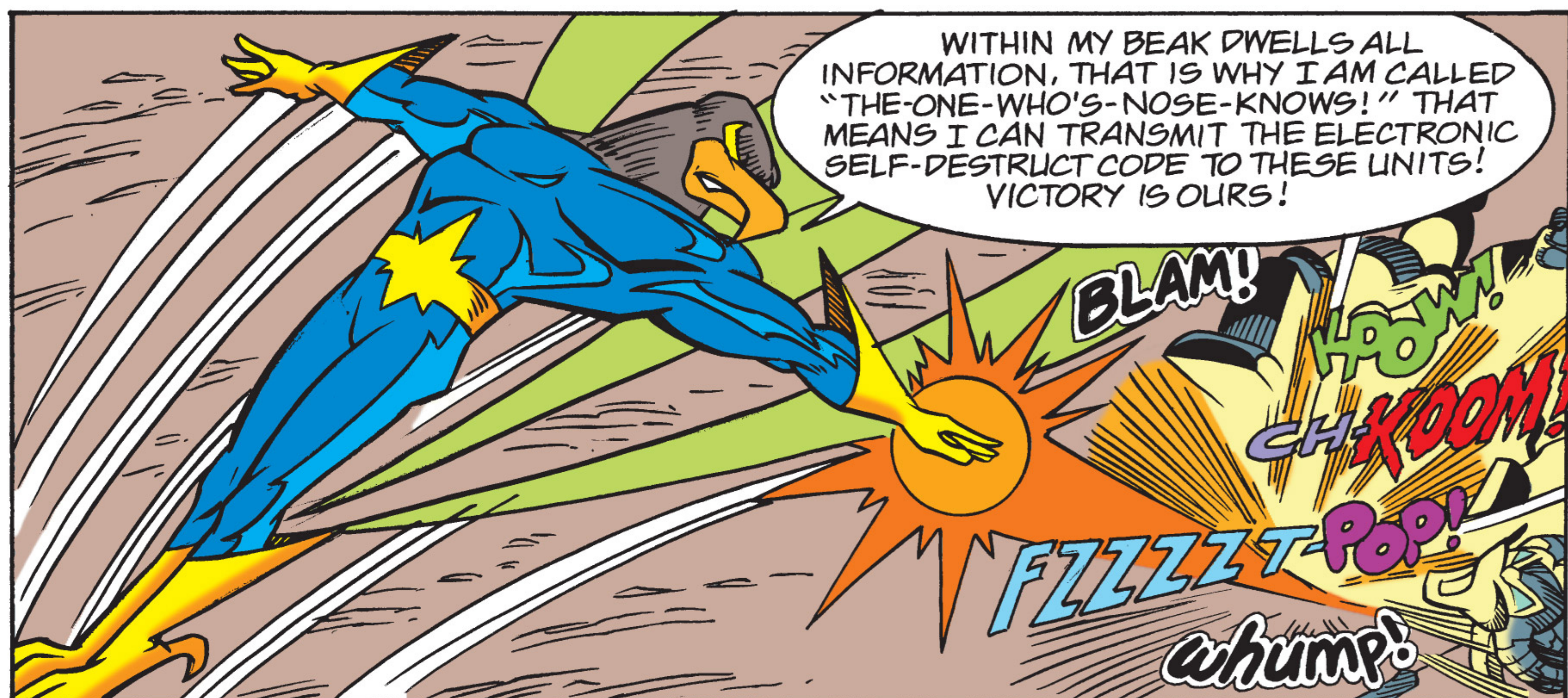
WE'RE
THE FREEDOM
FIGHTERS OF
THE GALAXY,
AND THIS IS
OUR SHIP,
UPDOCK!
MY NAME'S
CAPTAIN
ROTOR-27!

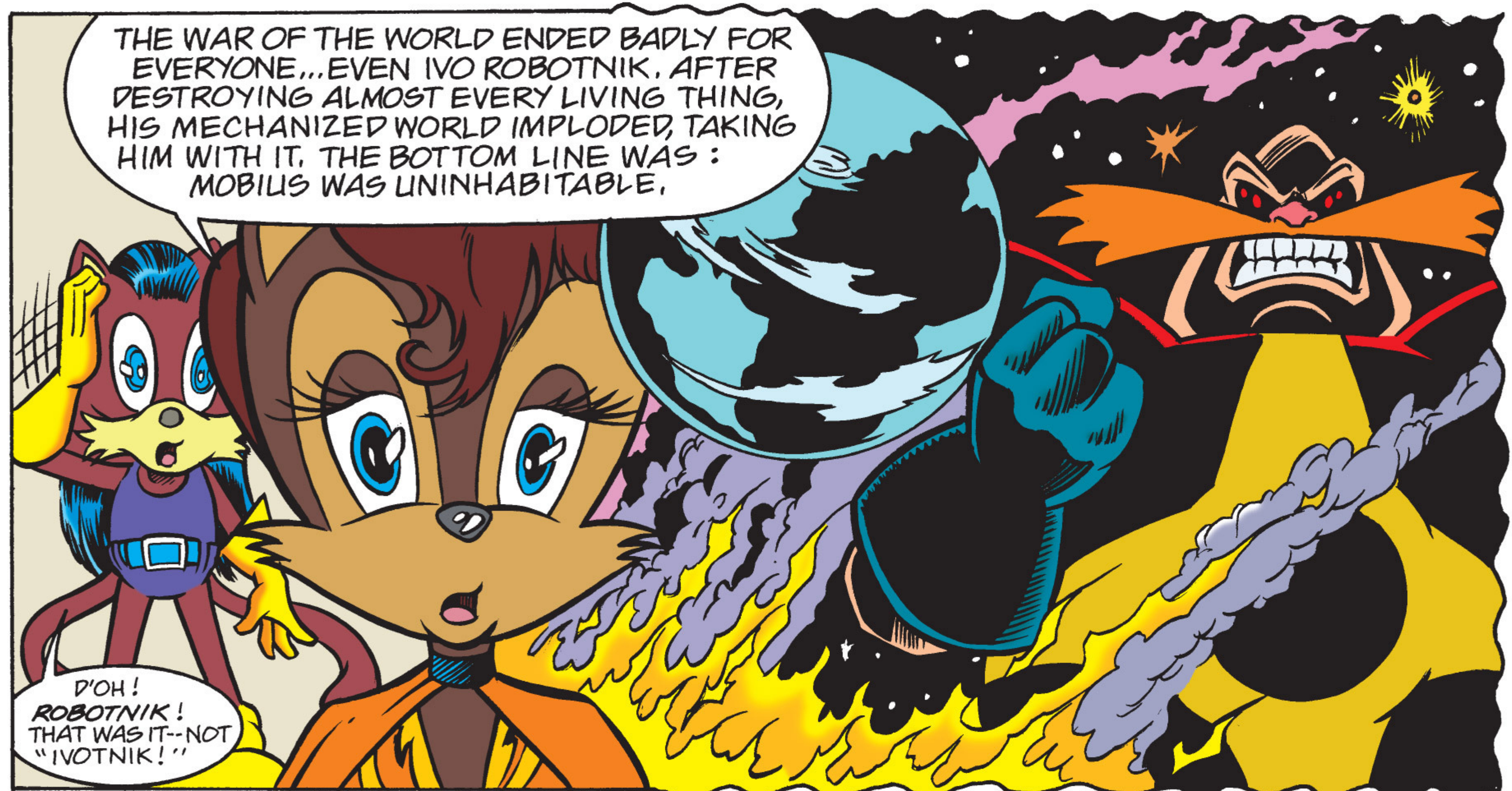
GREETINGS,
I AM SALETA!

ZEY CALL ME
'TWAN-DU!

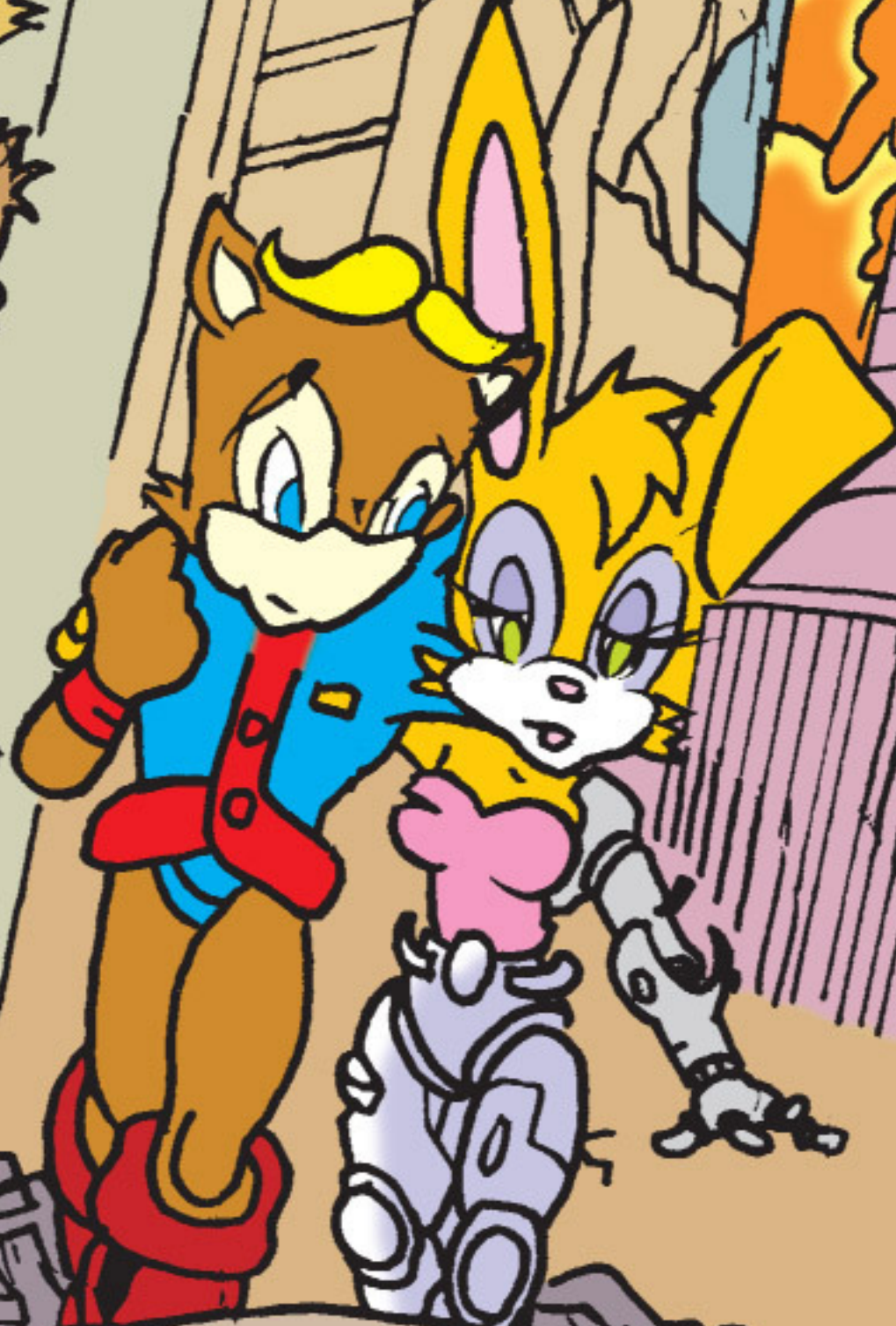
HEY,
Y'ALL!
CALL ME
BUNNI!

AND I AM
HAWKHAWK--
STAND
ASIDE!



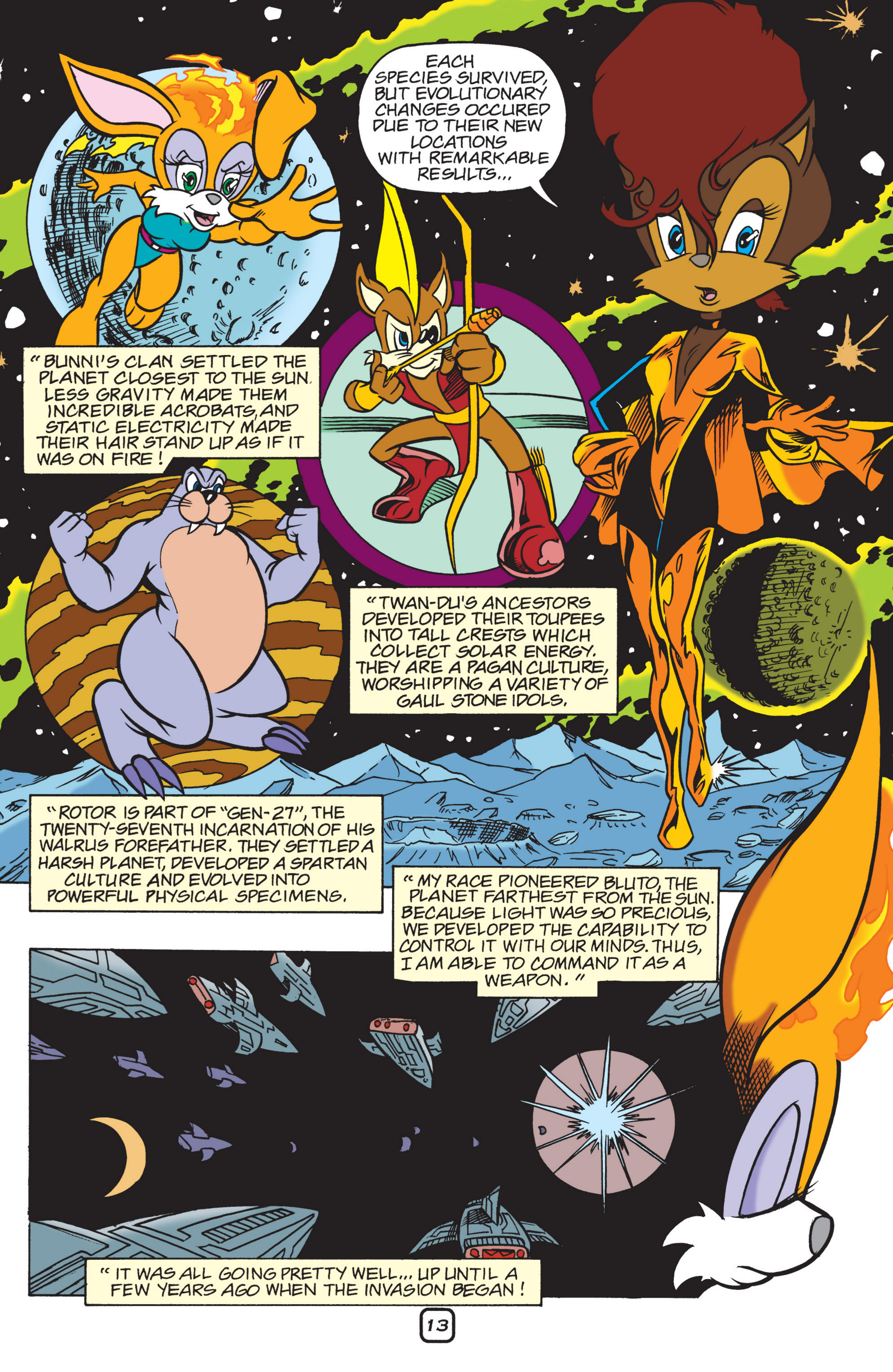


MIRACULOUSLY, FOUR OF ZEE ORIGINAL
KNOTHOLE FREEDOM FIGHTERS LIVED THROUGH
ZEE FINAL FIRESTORM AND MANAGED TO DRAG
THEMSELVES BACK TO ZEE SMOKING RUINS
OF ROBOTROPOLIS, SEEKING A WAY
OFF ZEE PLANET.



LOCATING UNDAMAGED SINGLE-
PASSENGER SPACECRAFT IN ROBOTNIK'S
ESCAPE TOWER, THEY LAUNCHED THEMSELVES
TO INDIVIDUAL SURROUNDING PLANETS. OUR
ANCESTORS VOWED TO ADAPT, POPULATE AND
EVOLVE ANEW OR DIE TRYING.





EACH SPECIES SURVIVED, BUT EVOLUTIONARY CHANGES OCCURED DUE TO THEIR NEW LOCATIONS WITH REMARKABLE RESULTS...

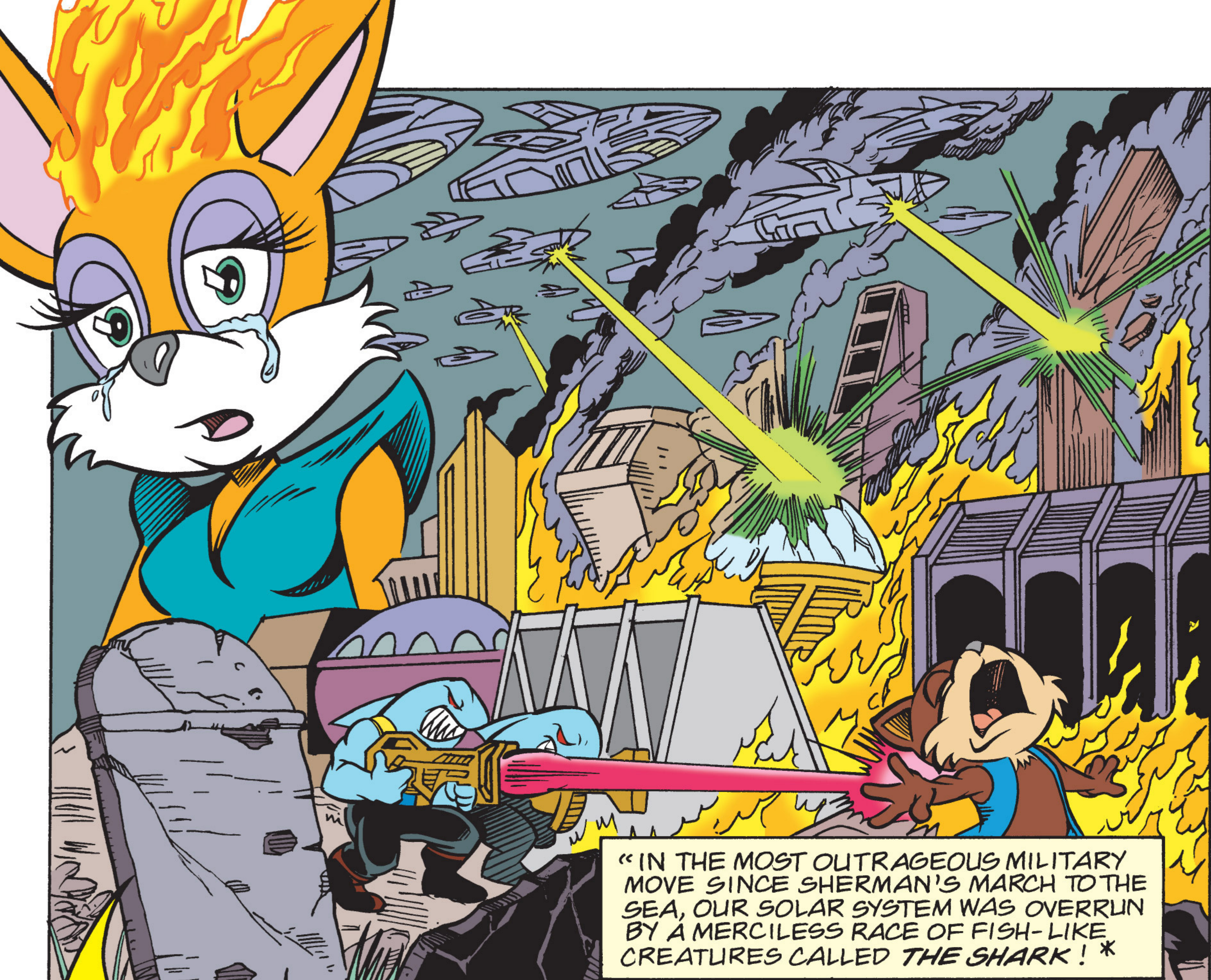
"BLUNNI'S CLAN SETTLED THE PLANET CLOSEST TO THE SUN. LESS GRAVITY MADE THEM INCREDIBLE ACROBATS, AND STATIC ELECTRICITY MADE THEIR HAIR STAND UP AS IF IT WAS ON FIRE!

"TWAN-DI'S ANCESTORS DEVELOPED THEIR TOLPEES INTO TALL CRESTS WHICH COLLECT SOLAR ENERGY. THEY ARE A PAGAN CULTURE, WORSHIPPING A VARIETY OF GALL STONE IDOLS,

"ROTOR IS PART OF "GEN-27", THE TWENTY-SEVENTH INCARNATION OF HIS WALRUS FOREFATHER. THEY SETTLED A HARSH PLANET, DEVELOPED A SPARTAN CULTURE AND EVOLVED INTO POWERFUL PHYSICAL SPECIMENS.

"MY RACE PIONEERED BLUTO, THE PLANET FARTHEST FROM THE SUN. BECAUSE LIGHT WAS SO PRECIOUS, WE DEVELOPED THE CAPABILITY TO CONTROL IT WITH OUR MINDS. THUS, I AM ABLE TO COMMAND IT AS A WEAPON."

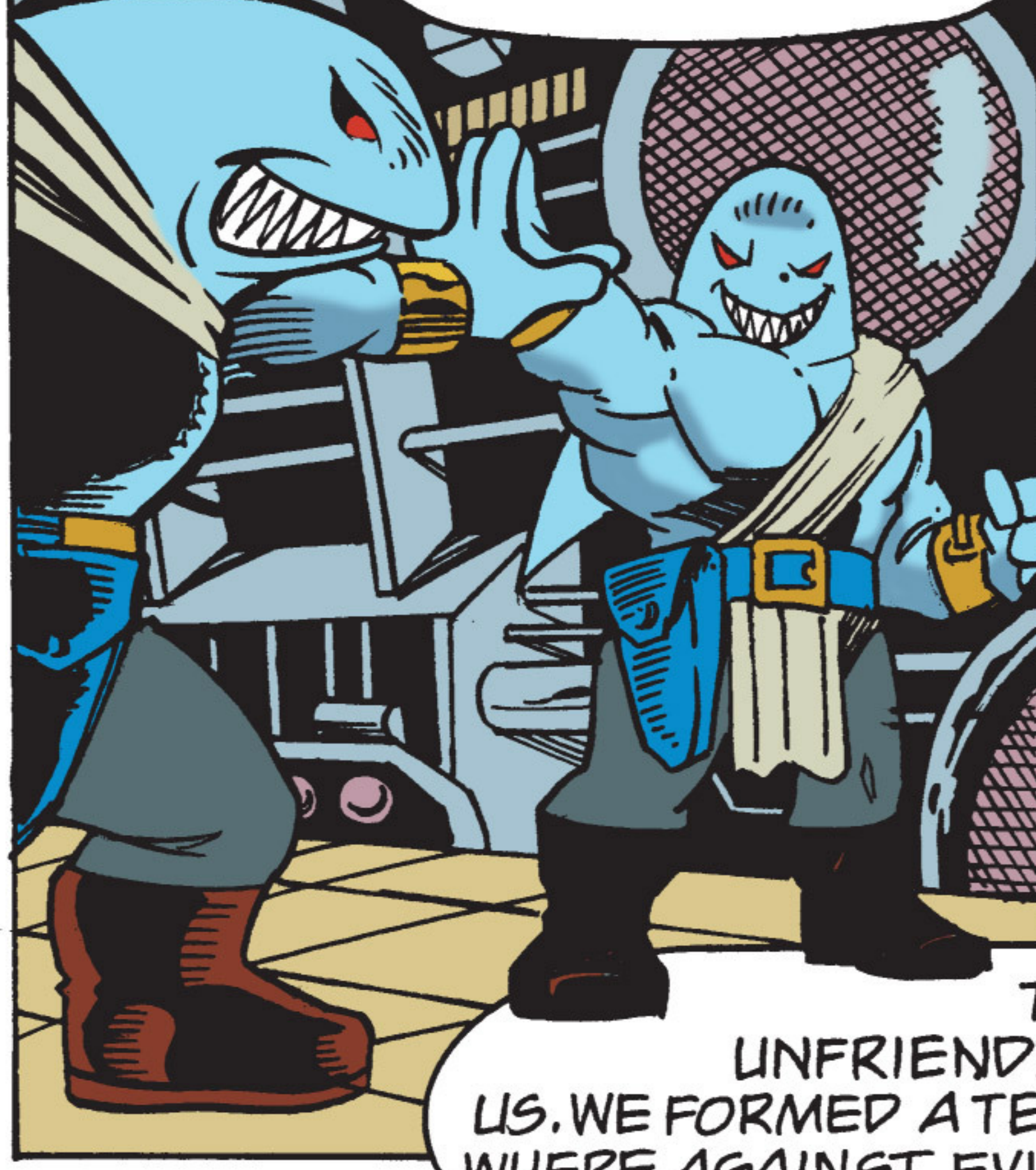
"IT WAS ALL GOING PRETTY WELL... UP UNTIL A FEW YEARS AGO WHEN THE INVASION BEGAN!



"IN THE MOST OUTRAGEOUS MILITARY MOVE SINCE SHERMAN'S MARCH TO THE SEA, OUR SOLAR SYSTEM WAS OVERRUN BY A MERCILESS RACE OF FISH-LIKE CREATURES CALLED *THE SHARK* ! *

* THE SHARK WERE UNWITTINGLY CREATED BY THE FORTY FATHOMS FREEDOM FIGHTERS WHEN THEY LAUNCHED A SPACESHIP FULL OF THEIR HYDROTECHNOLOGY DURING THE WAR OF THE WORLD, BUT THAT'S ANOTHER STORY-- ONE THAT YOU'RE WELCOME TO WRITE TO US AT SONIC GRAMS AND REQUEST--FREDITOR FREMERITUS.

AFTER THEIR FEEDING FRENZY OF GENOCIDE WAS COMPLETE, ZEE SHARK LEFT. LEETLE DID THEY KNOW ZAT ONE MEMBER OF EACH PLANET HAD SURVIVED THEIR CAMPAIGN OF TERROR !



THE MYSTERIOUS AND DOWNRIGHT UNFRIENDLY HAWKHAWK SCOUTED AND ORGANIZED US. WE FORMED A TEAM, PLEDGING TO DEFEND ANYONE ANYWHERE AGAINST EVIL AGGRESSION. WE CALL OURSELVES THE *FREEDOM FIGHTERS OF THE GALAXY* !





HOLY
BUCKETS!
IT'S
HIM!

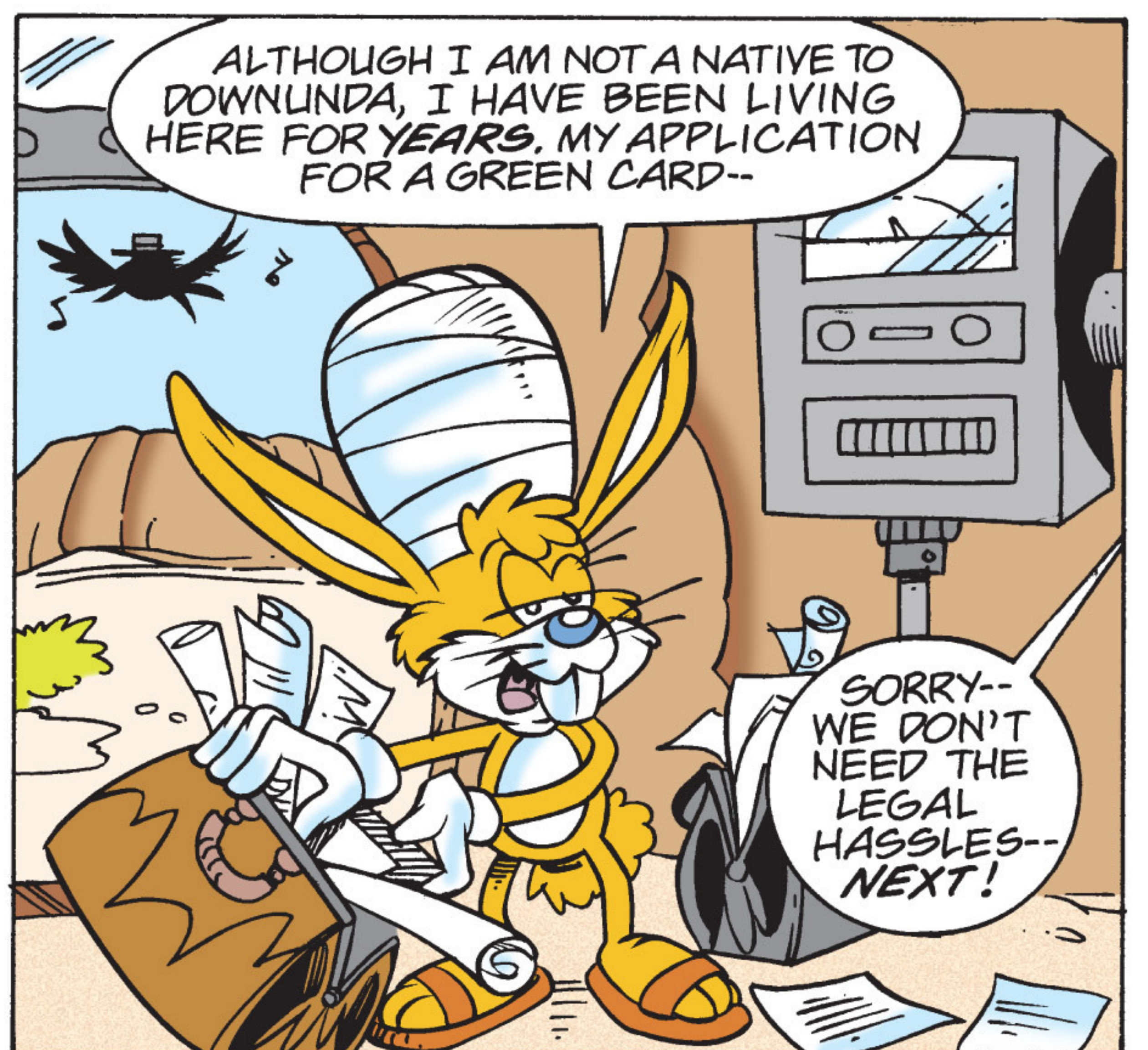
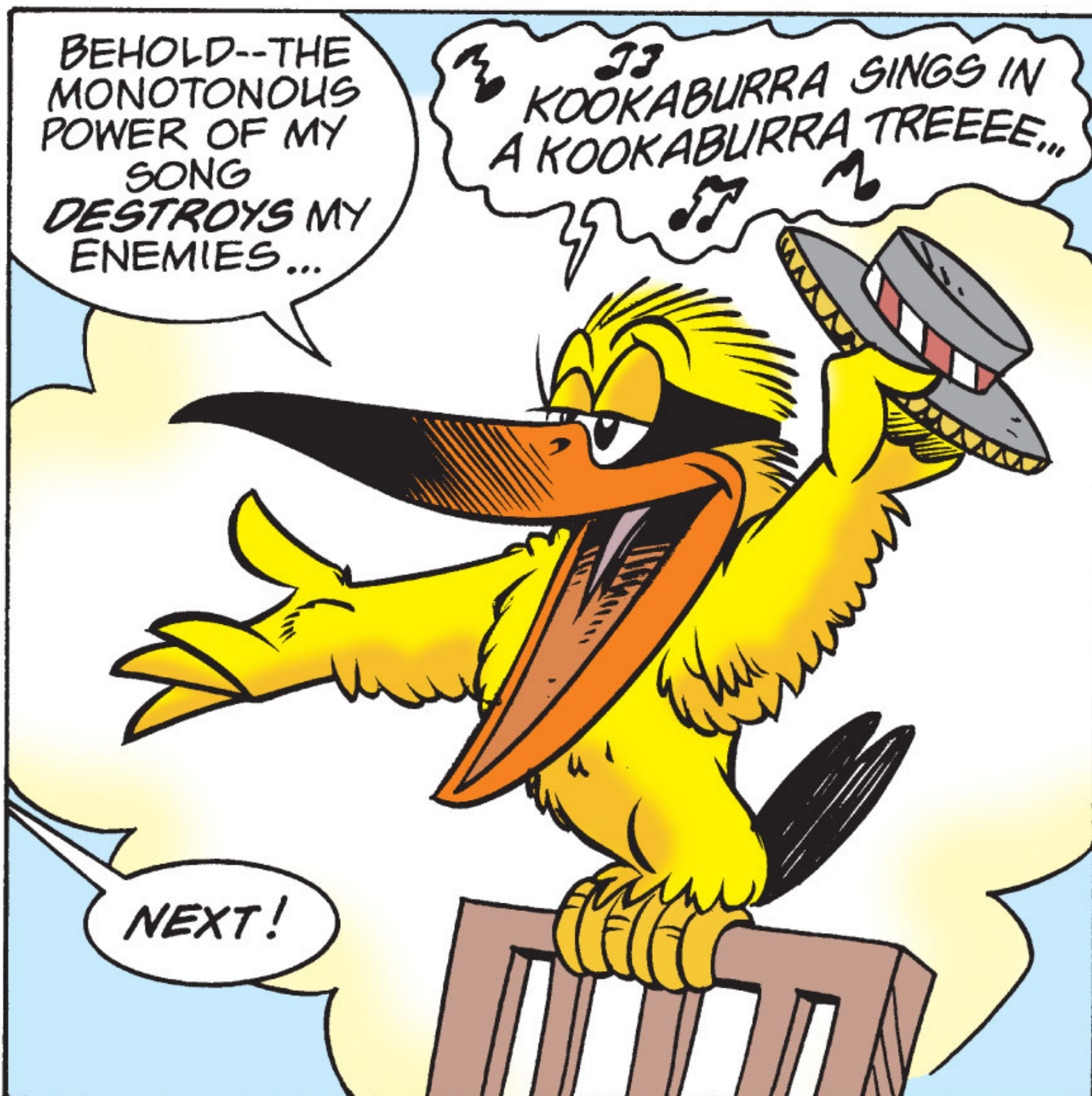
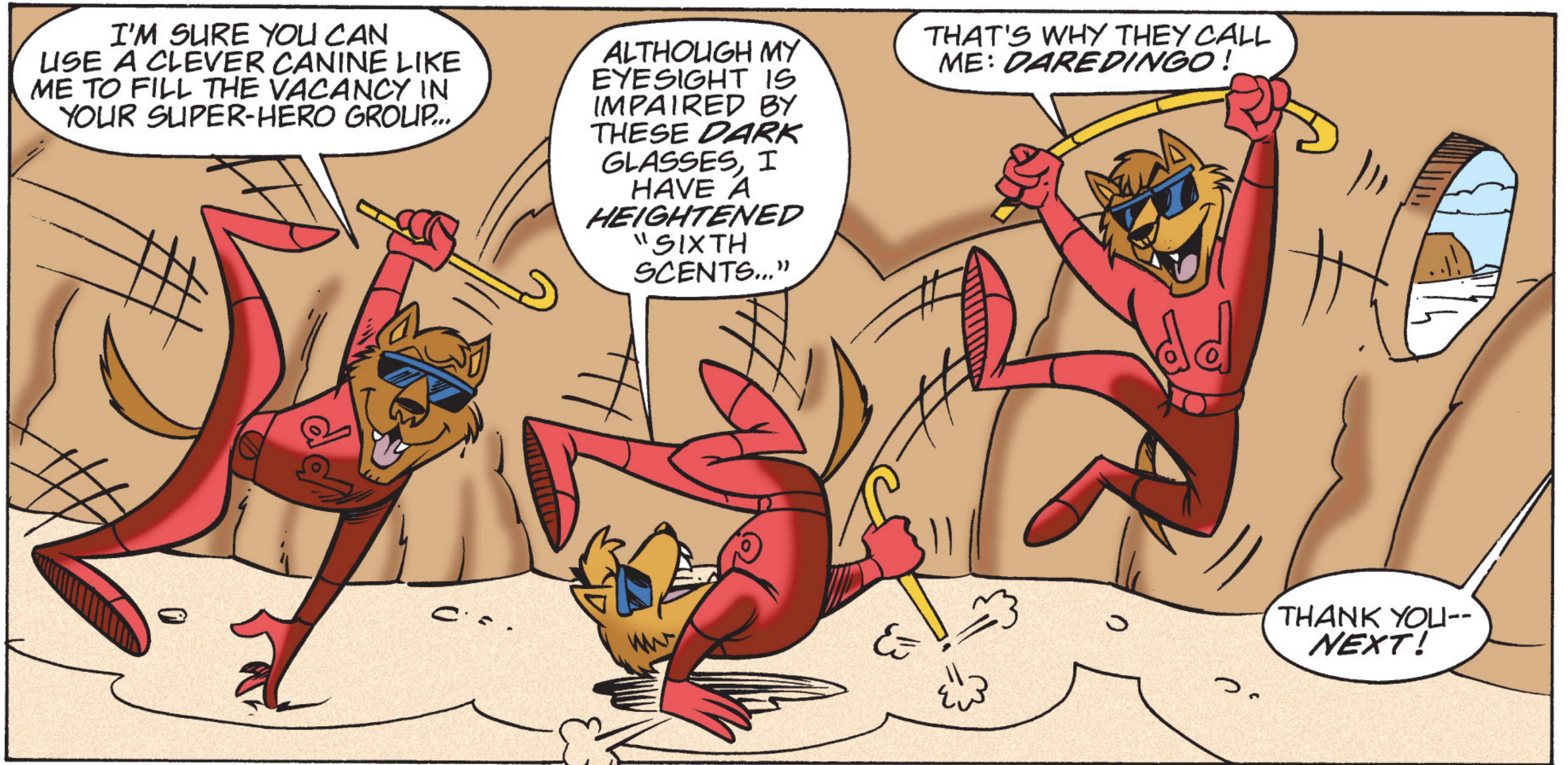
!GASP!
SO THE
LEGENDS ARE
TRUE?

INDEED,
SALETA, THE
ULTIMATE
DISASTER IS
UPON US...

BEHOLD! IT IS
SILVER SNIVELY! HE IS
HERALD TO THE GREATEST
MENACE IN THE UNIVERSE
AND WHOSE ARRIVAL HERE
IS NOW A FORGONE
CONCLUSION...

OH, UNKIND FATE!
SILVER SNIVELY'S MASTER,
ROBOLACTUS, THE PLANET
GLUTTON IS COMING --- AND
HE HUNGERS!

TO BE CONTINUED...



DOWNUNDA FREEDOM FIGHTERS

IN

MOCH TAKEN IDENTITY?

PART ONE

IT LOOKS LIKE WE WON'T BE REPLACING WOMBAT STU ANYTIME SOON. *

AGREED. EVEN THOUGH THERE'S TROUBLE BREWING HERE IN DOWNUNDA, I SAY WE LEAVE THE TEAM AT ITS CURRENT MEMBERSHIP, FOUR. ANY OBJECTIONS?

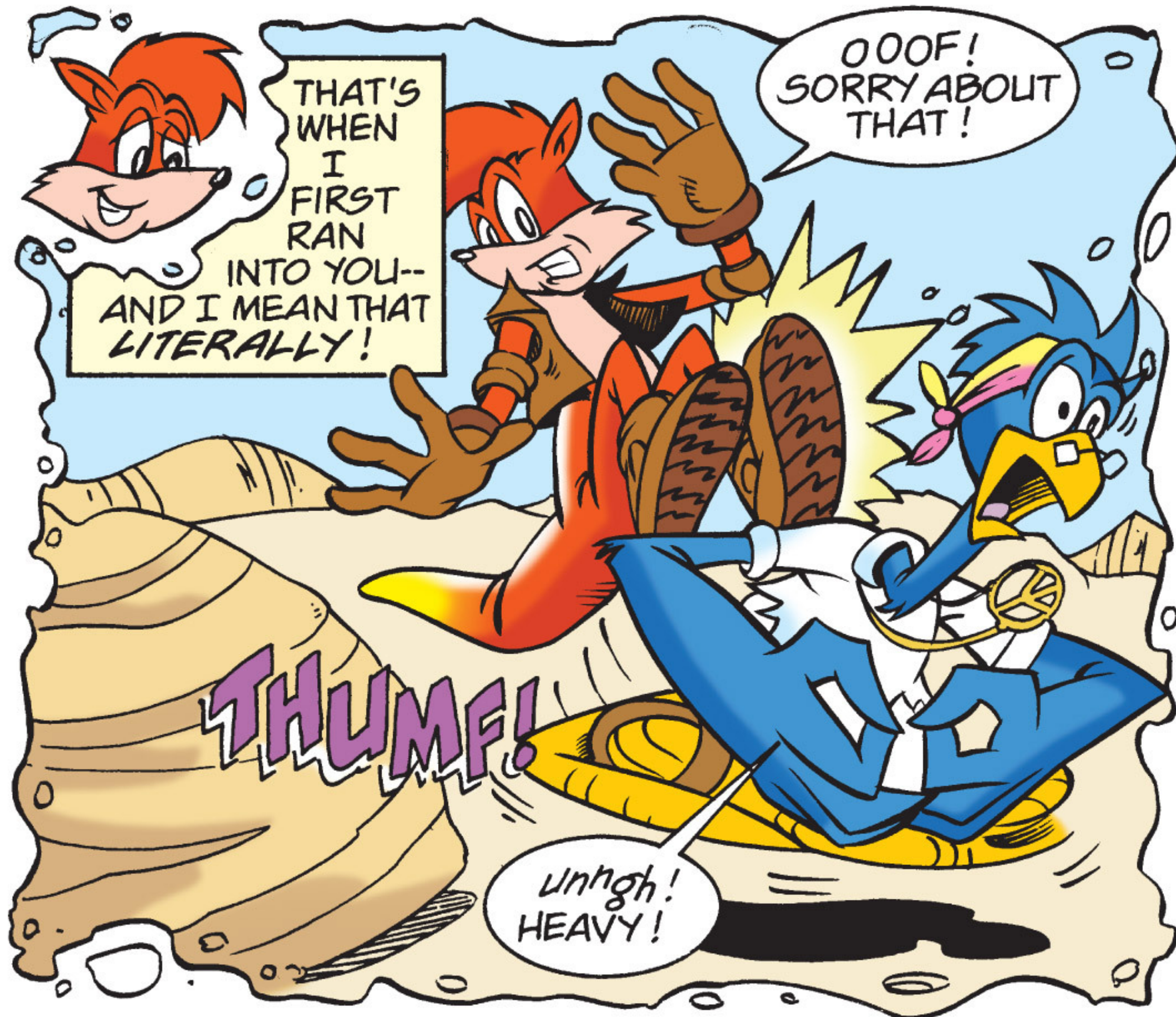
YAWN= NO.

MAN, IT'S NOT LIKE THE OLD DAYS WHEN WE FIRST FORMED THIS GROUP.

*WOMBAT STU WAS RECRUITED BY GEOFFREY ST. JOHN IN SONIC #61 AND IS NOW A MEMBER OF KING ACORN'S SECRET SERVICE --JFG, EDITOR EMERITUS.

MICHAEL GALLAGHER-WRITER DAVE MANAK-PENCILLER
HARVO-INKER VICKIE WILLIAMS-LETTERER FRANK GAGLIARDO-COLORIST
JUSTIN GABRIE-EDITOR/ART DIRECTOR

IT SURE ISN'T, GURL. I REMEMBER HOW IT ALL BEGAN. BACK THEN, I WAS AN IDEALISTIC YOUNG WALLABY. DETERMINED TO DISCOVER MY DESTINY, I LEFT HOME AND WENT ON A WALKABOUT... OR IN MY CASE, A "HOPABOUT!"



THAT'S WHEN I FIRST RAN INTO YOU-- AND I MEAN THAT LITERALLY!

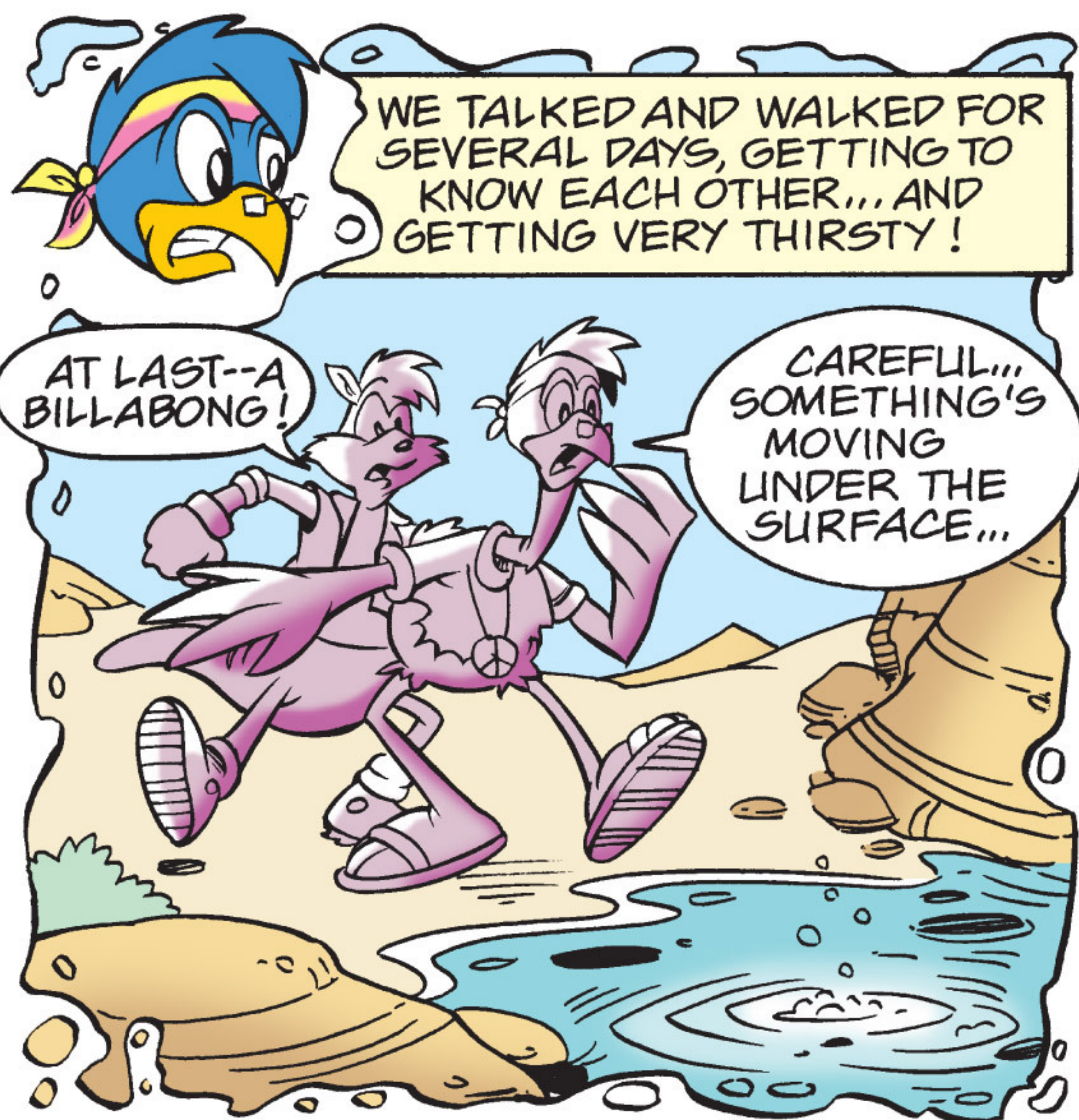
OOOF! SORRY ABOUT THAT!

Ungh! HEAVY!



AW, C'MON, MATE! I DON'T WEIGH THAT MUCH...

NO, I MEAN IT'S HEAVY THAT I WAS JUST ASKING THE GREAT SPIRIT TO SHOW ME A SIGN AND YOU CAME ALONG. WE'RE MEANT TO MEET, MY MAN.



AT LAST--A BILLABONG!

CAREFUL... SOMETHING'S MOVING UNDER THE SURFACE...

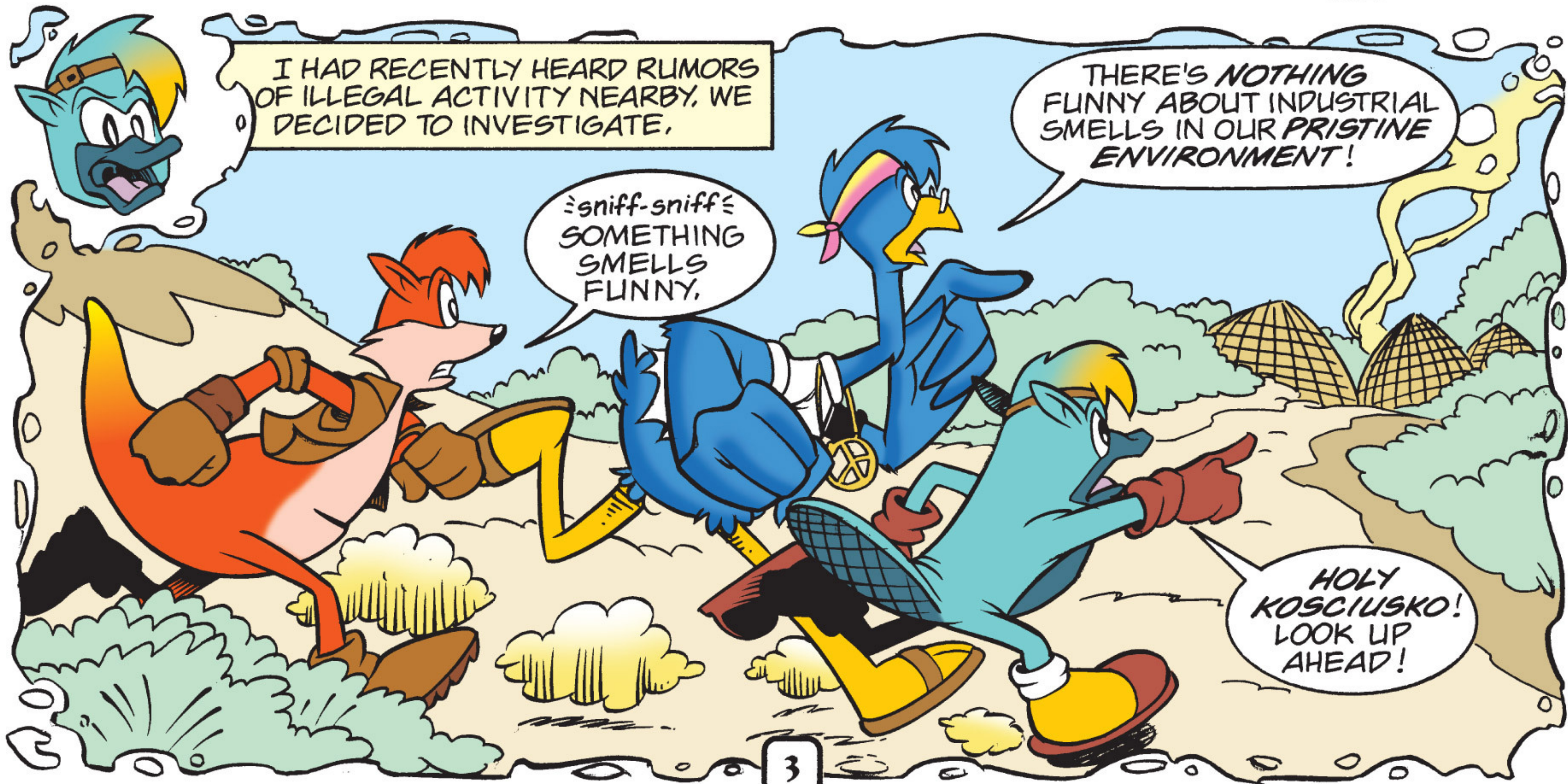


SPLOOOOP!

IT'S A PLATYPUS!

CALL ME "BILL," FELLAS!

BILLFELLAS-- WHAT A COOL NICKNAME!

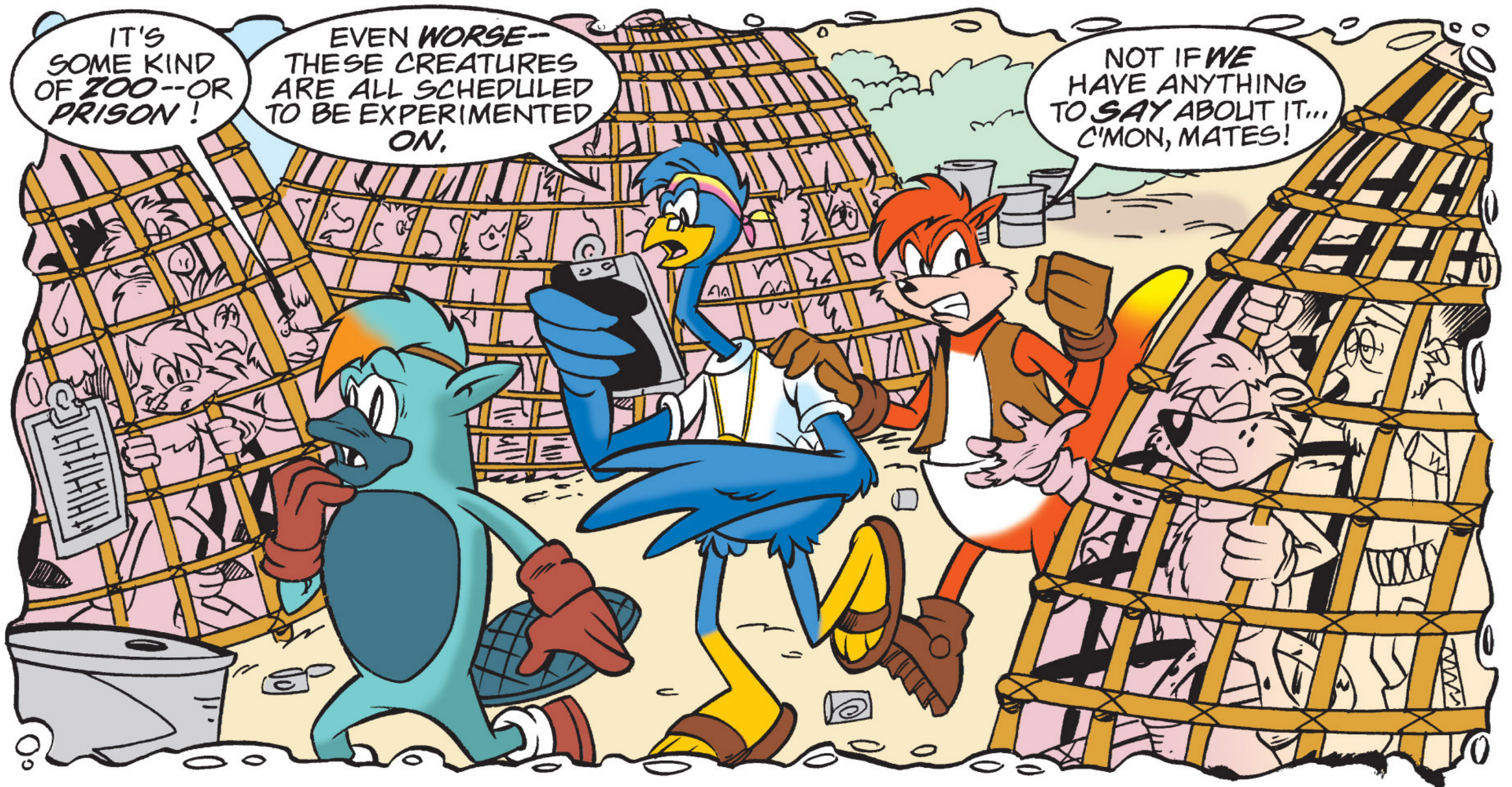


I HAD RECENTLY HEARD RUMORS OF ILLEGAL ACTIVITY NEARBY, WE DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE.

~sniff-sniff~ SOMETHING SMELLS FUNNY.

THERE'S NOTHING FUNNY ABOUT INDUSTRIAL SMELLS IN OUR PRISTINE ENVIRONMENT!

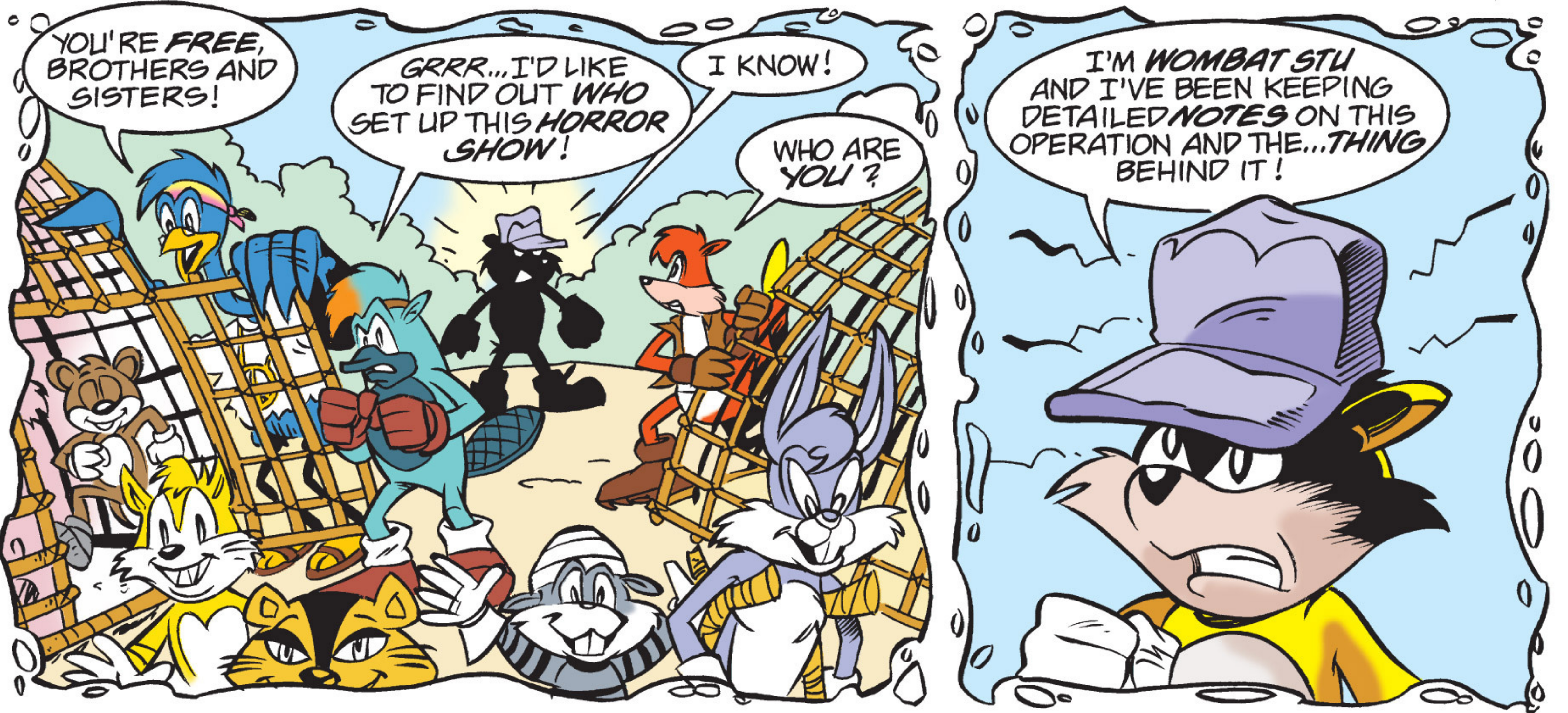
HOLY KOSCIUSKO! LOOK UP AHEAD!



IT'S SOME KIND OF ZOO--OR PRISON!

EVEN WORSE-- THESE CREATURES ARE ALL SCHEDULED TO BE EXPERIMENTED ON.

NOT IF WE HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT IT... C'MON, MATES!



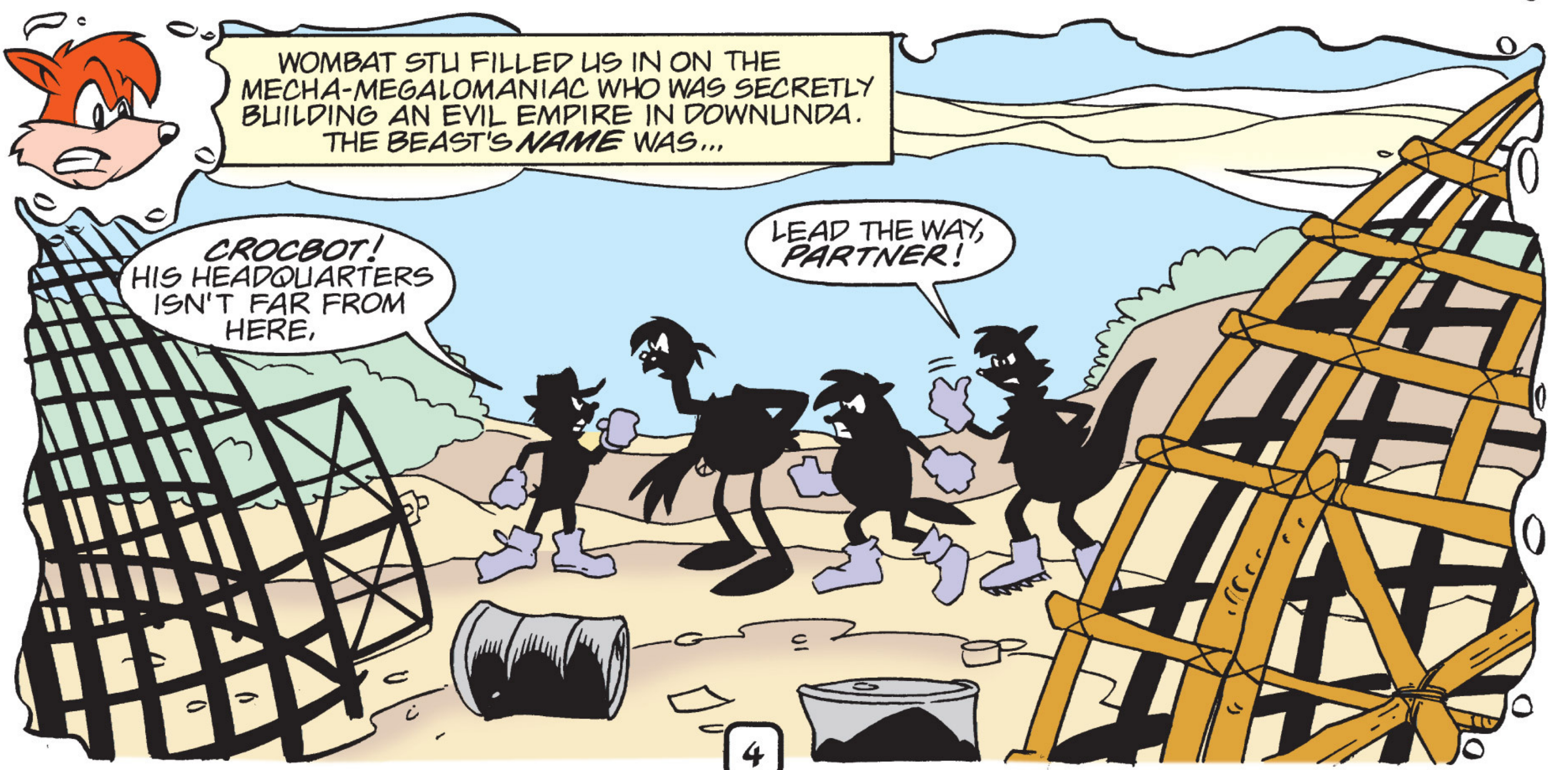
YOU'RE FREE, BROTHERS AND SISTERS!

GRRR...I'D LIKE TO FIND OUT WHO SET UP THIS HORROR SHOW!

I KNOW!

WHO ARE YOU?

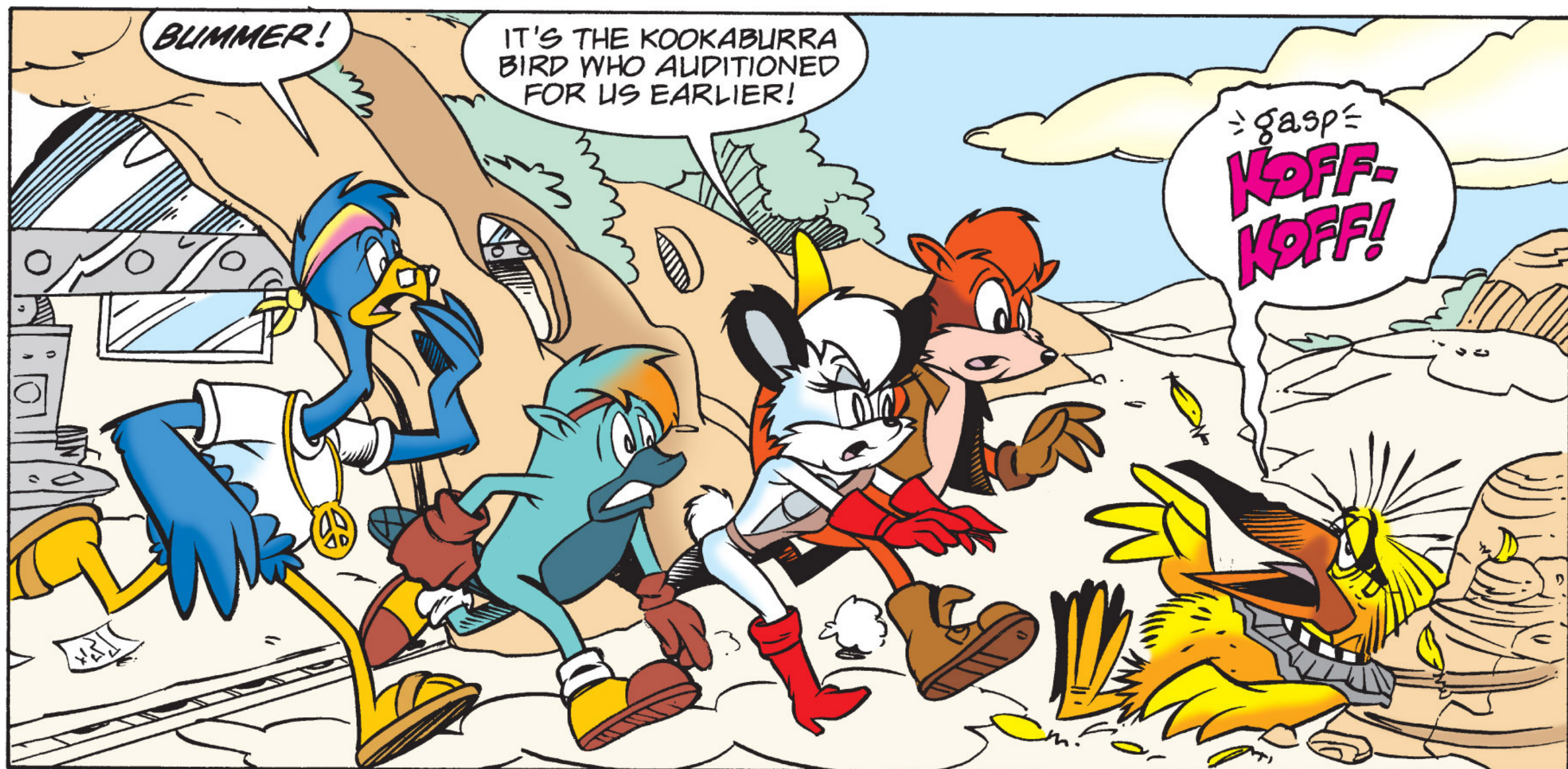
I'M WOMBAT STU AND I'VE BEEN KEEPING DETAILED NOTES ON THIS OPERATION AND THE...THING BEHIND IT!



WOMBAT STU FILLED US IN ON THE MECHA-MEGALOMANIAC WHO WAS SECRETLY BUILDING AN EVIL EMPIRE IN DOWNLUNDA. THE BEAST'S NAME WAS...

CROCBOT! HIS HEADQUARTERS ISN'T FAR FROM HERE,

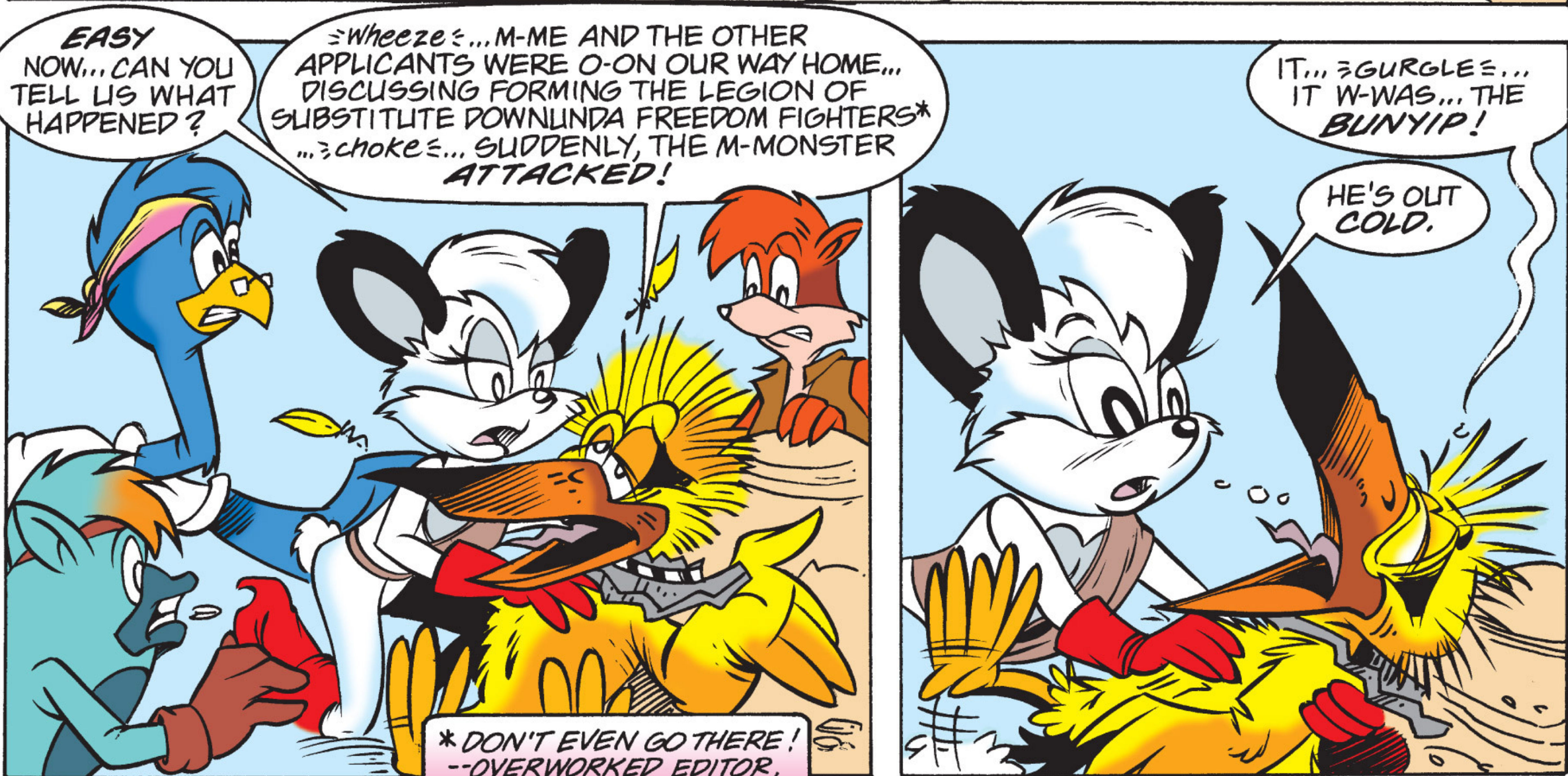
LEAD THE WAY, PARTNER!



BLUMMER!

IT'S THE KOOKABURRA BIRD WHO AUDITIONED FOR US EARLIER!

gasp
KOFF-KOFF!



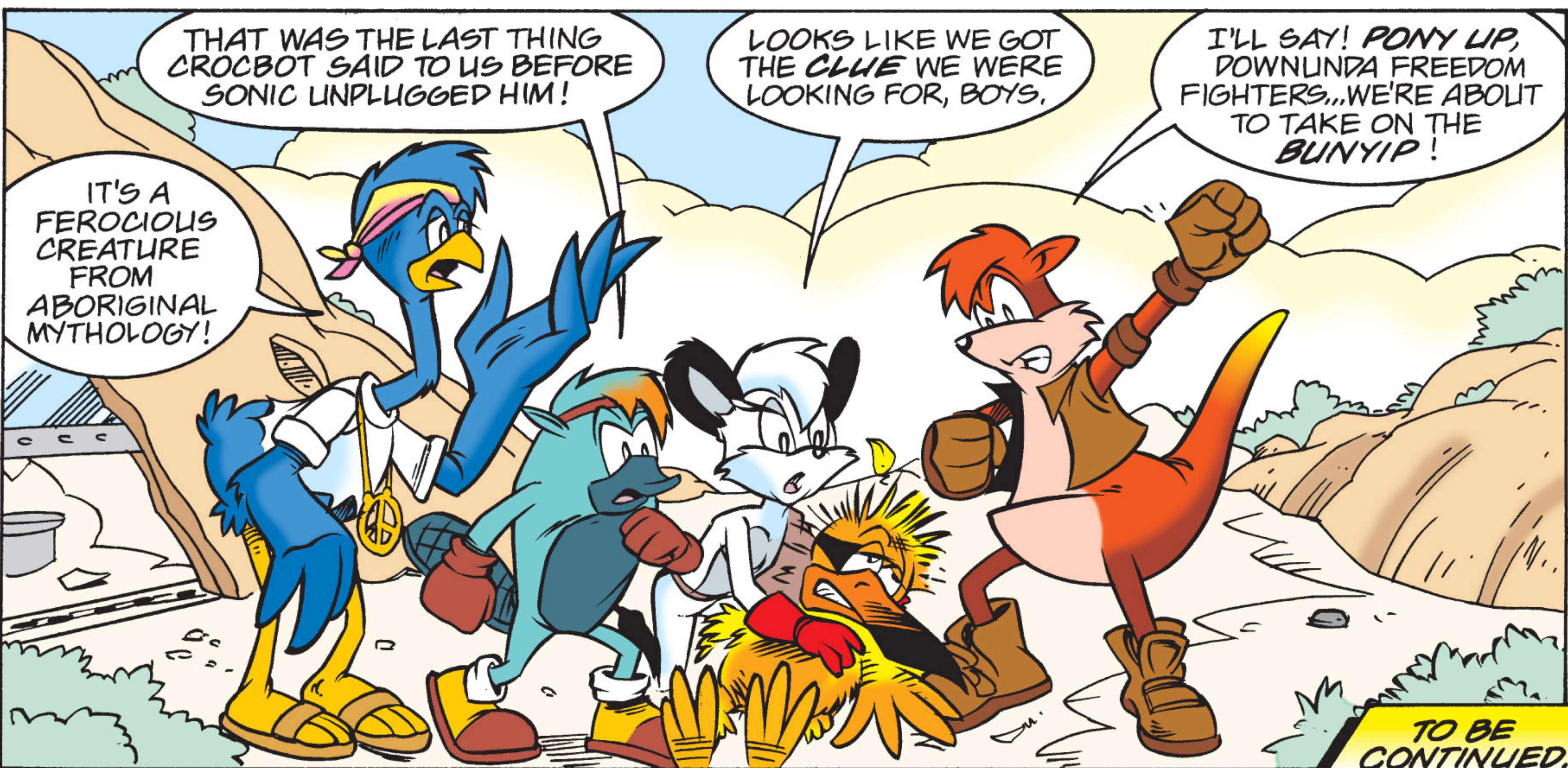
EASY NOW... CAN YOU TELL US WHAT HAPPENED?

Wheeze... M-ME AND THE OTHER APPLICANTS WERE O-ON OUR WAY HOME... DISCUSSING FORMING THE LEGION OF SUBSTITUTE DOWNUNDA FREEDOM FIGHTERS* ...choke... SUDDENLY, THE M-MONSTER ATTACKED!

IT... GURGLE... IT W-WAS... THE BUNYIP!

HE'S OUT COLD.

*DON'T EVEN GO THERE!
--OVERWORKED EDITOR.



THAT WAS THE LAST THING CROCBOT SAID TO US BEFORE SONIC UNPLUGGED HIM!

LOOKS LIKE WE GOT THE CLUE WE WERE LOOKING FOR, BOYS.

I'LL SAY! PONY UP, DOWNUNDA FREEDOM FIGHTERS...WE'RE ABOUT TO TAKE ON THE BUNYIP!

IT'S A FEROCIOUS CREATURE FROM ABORIGINAL MYTHOLOGY!

TO BE CONTINUED...

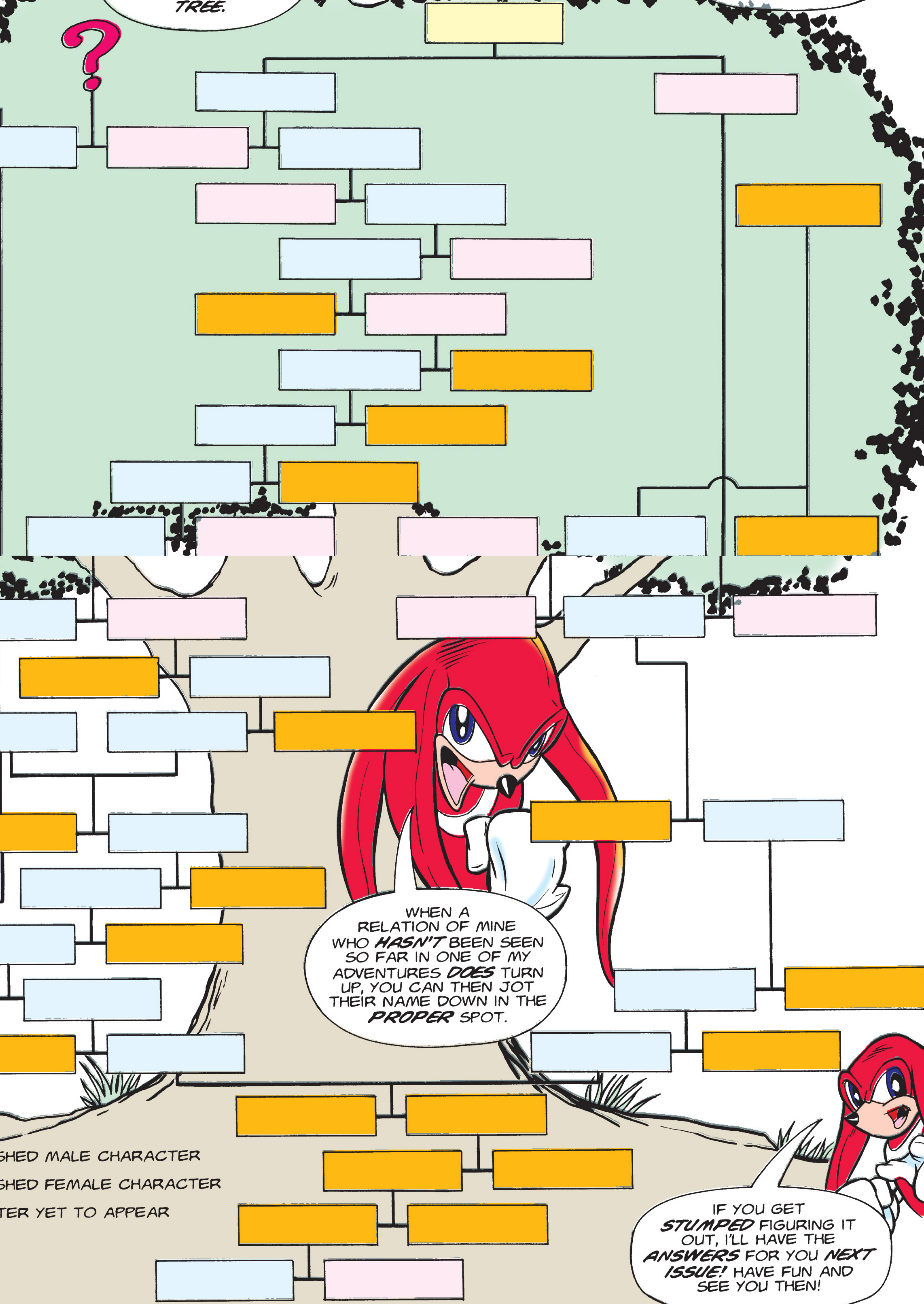
FOR SOME TIME NOW, EVERYONE'S BEEN ASKING JUST WHO'S *RELATED* TO WHOM IN *MY FAMILY*, SO I PUT TOGETHER THIS *SCORECARD* FOR ALL YOU READERS TO KEEP TRACK WITH.

THOSE OF YOU WHO'VE BEEN PAYING ATTENTION SHOULD KNOW WHICH *NAME* FROM THE *COLUMN* ON THE *LEFT* GOES WITH WHICH *BOX* ON THE *TREE*.

BUT I'LL BE A SPORT ABOUT IT AND TELL YOU THE *YELLOW BOXES* ARE FOR CHARACTERS *YET TO BE SHOWN OR MENTIONED*.



- JORDANN
- KAYLA-LA
- EDMUND
- DIMITRI
- STEPPENWOLF
- MENNIKER
- MOONWATCHER
- HARLAN
- MORITORI REX
- REMBRANDT
- AARON
- JORDAN
- LUGER
- MERIN-DA
- MARI-SU
- MATTHIAS
- KRAGOK
- LIEN-DA
- HAWKING
- SONJA-RA
- TORNOR
- SPECTRE
- THUNDERHAWK
- SOJOURNER
- JANELLE-LI
- ATHAIR
- CRYSTAL-LA
- SABRE
- JENNA-LU
- LOCKE
- LARA-LE
- WYNMACHER
- KNUCKLES
- JULIE-SU
- LARA-SU



WHEN A RELATION OF MINE WHO *HASN'T* BEEN SEEN SO FAR IN ONE OF MY ADVENTURES *DOES* TURN UP, YOU CAN THEN JOT THEIR NAME DOWN IN THE *PROPER* SPOT.

- = ESTABLISHED MALE CHARACTER
- = ESTABLISHED FEMALE CHARACTER
- = CHARACTER YET TO APPEAR

IF YOU GET *STUMPED* FIGURING IT OUT, I'LL HAVE THE *ANSWERS* FOR YOU *NEXT ISSUE!* HAVE FUN AND SEE YOU THEN!

